

THE UNITED STATES Miller

SEVENTEENTH YEAR, No. 12.

MILWAUKEE, DECEMBER, 1892.

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1892.

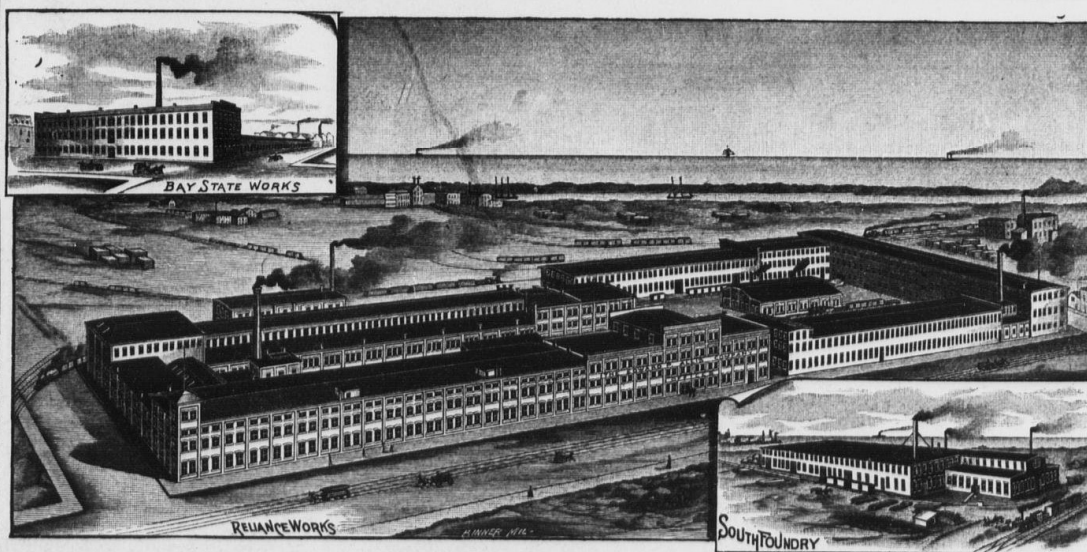
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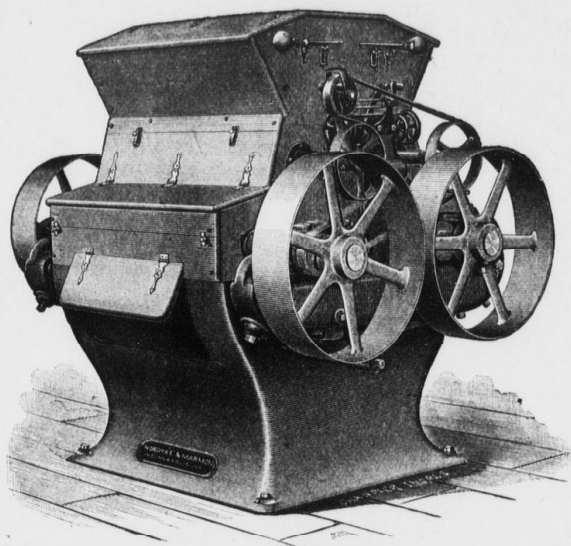
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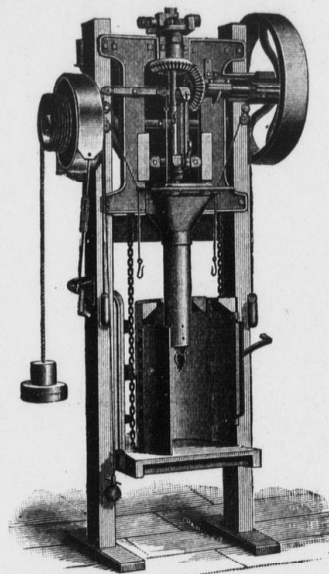


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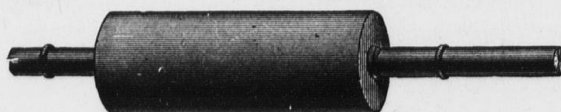
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RANDOM THOUGHTS.

BY WANDERER.

IN the issuing and using of the large quantities of material handled at any of our mills in course of construction, there is involved much detail of form and accounts. The issuing of material is, to a large degree, analogous to the issue of money, and the same care should be taken to see that all necessary forms and rules are provided for the proper accounting of the same. There is, I think, too often a disposition to use material carelessly, not as regards using it for purposes other than for the mill builder's service, but in putting it to uses for which it is not intended, or in too lavish use of it in the company's work. There seems to be a feeling that, as the material is in store and the money has actually been paid out for it, there need not be a strict accounting for the use of the same, the only requisite being that it be used for the builder's service.

In the use of lumber, for instance, is where the millwright can make a great saving, if he is so disposed. We often see, however, where the "kindling pile" contains much valuable lumber, and is convincing to any one that a great deal has been wasted or cut to disadvantage. Screws, nails and other articles of hardware are sometimes carelessly lost—a small portion here and another somewhere else.

One great reason for this extravagance in the use of material is on account of mills being rushed to completion in so short a time. It is customary, nowadays, for a miller to have his mill erected when the mill builder is most busy. As a rule the machinery is shipped several weeks behind the time agreed upon, and the result is that the work is completed at break-neck speed. It is also very likely to occur that the millwrights are delayed in getting on the ground, even after the machinery has all been shipped and reached its destination. This has much to do with the extravagance of material used, and requires careful manipulation, on the part of the millwright foreman, to com-

plete the work with any reasonable amount of economy.

We find, as a rule, when a new mill is completed and ready to start that something is always lacking in the mechanical construction. It will not require very close inspection to notice many points about the mill that lack finish. This is particularly noticeable where the finish on the various machines, elevators, spouting, etc., is very elaborate, causing a great contrast to the rough edges here and there. It is surprising why these things should be overlooked and suffered to go unfinished. It is perhaps owing to the miller's and mill builder's extreme gratification over getting a mill successfully started and making superior results, that these little things are entirely overlooked.

For instance, we are apt to see temporary braces that are still in place for want of some one to remove them. We find in many parts of the mill, rough edges and lack of finish, which would require but a short time for some one to remedy. The cause may perhaps be attributed to the miller getting out of patience toward the last, to get the mill started, or that the millwrights are losing interest toward the winding up of the work. It often is the case, also, that some men's patience will never hold out sufficiently long to complete a thing, and it perhaps includes millwrights also. It requires but very little extra work and material to make a job complete and pleasing to the eye. A little shellac and varnish will also add largely to putting a finish on the work. It will require a very small outlay to add at least twenty-five per cent to the general appearance, and as a result will enhance the actual value of the mill. A little white paint applied to the inside of the building will also work wonders in this direction. The cost of this part of the work would naturally fall upon the mill owners.

The operating miller will certainly take much more pride in keeping up a mill that is properly finished, to a standard of perfection. This might well

be compared to the man who buys a new suit of clothes. If the suit is a perfect fit he will naturally take good care of it, and will brush it carefully. He will have it repressed and cleaned occasionally. On the other hand, if the suit does not fit him properly, he will be very careless with it, regardless of the price of the material. It is pretty much that way with the miller and the mill he is to operate. It is not alone that he will exert himself to keep the mill looking well, but he will also strive to have every machine and all bearings run smoothly. He will see that belts run properly, without running to one edge of the pulley. By keeping the mill a model of neatness, he will necessarily keep it clean and will observe at a moment's notice any leaks in machines, elevators or spouting. He will not be content to resort to a piece of old ticking to temporarily plug up a leak, but will make every effort to make all joints perfectly tight by means of the same material that the millwright should have used. It often happens, as a matter of course, that millwrights are not always at fault when leaks present themselves. In a well-regulated mill of this kind will always be found a chest, well stocked with tools, and they will always be found in their allotted place when not in use somewhere in the mill. It is not at all likely that one will find a scrap pile, under every stair landing, of trash, consisting of old pieces of packing, scraps of hose, belts of all sizes, elevator cups, bolts of all kinds, etc., all mixed up in a heap. One would naturally infer, therefore, that it will take a very small outlay to make a mill complete, when compared to the great advantages to be gained thereby.

WHEAT AND FLOUR IN MINNESOTA

The Minnesota Bureau of Labor Statistics is engaged in an exhaustive examination into the history of wheat and flour, with the result, so far as published, of again showing how profoundly our political history and the problems of population and food are being modified by the progress of invention. Though

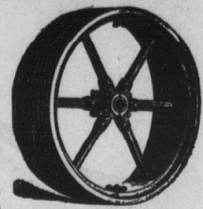
the complete volumes of the Bureau are not yet in print, the St. Paul Pioneer Press has published a number of interesting extracts. There are two main kinds of wheat, the winter and spring wheat; the former such as is grown in the more southerly States, the latter principally covering the kinds of grain grown in Minnesota and the Dakotas. From the earliest times winter wheat has been the favorite. In 1672, in New York colony, the price of winter wheat was fixed by law at four shillings and of spring wheat at three shillings per bushel. Differences of 25 per cent in favor of the winter grain abound in commercial history here and in England, such differences continue until the introduction of the roller process of milling in 1873. The reason for this preference is found in the fact that previous to 1873 white flour could not be made from spring wheat. Flour manufactured from the grain would not keep, especially in warm climates. Consequently, price records in the United States for the years before 1873 show a difference of forty cents per bushel in favor of winter wheat. After that date we note a gradual change in the relative values until 1880, since which time spring wheat has ruled something like twenty cents per bushel higher than its ancient rival. The Minnesota and Dakota farmer has thus had forty or more cents per bushel added to the value of his wheat.

The revolution in flour milling which led to this result was first brought about in Hungary. Although the point has been much disputed, it is probably true that the Hungarian millers—leader then, as now, in their art in Europe—originated the high grinding and the roller process, which are the basis of the modern manufacture of flour. But Minneapolis millers were quick to see the advantages of the new process. They improved upon their models, and applied all these improvements to their mills, giving Minneapolis a grasp upon the manufacture of flour which its rival, Duluth, with an increasing advantage from location, will find it very difficult to shake off.—Price Current.

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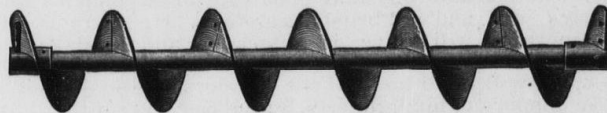
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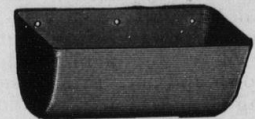
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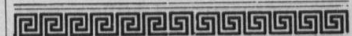
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Associations.

ILLINOIS MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE eighteenth annual convention of the Illinois Millers' State Association met at the Leland Hotel, Springfield, Ill., December 7, 1892.

The following members answered the roll call: E. C. Kreider, C. B. Cole, D. S. Shellabarger, A. Dorkenwald, A. Dow, J. F. Imbs, A. R. McKinney, C. Valier, H. Schurmann, W. D. Sparks, A. J. Meek, A. Stubbs, C. H. Seybt, J. W. Harmel, H. Prange and A. Ironmonger, some of those present representing district millers' associations.

President Kreider in the chair, H. Schurmann acting secretary. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

C. H. Seybt presented a financial statement for the year, showing cash on hand \$505.85, which report was approved.

The flour export to West India, Central and South America was fully discussed; it was the consensus of the meeting that the exporting of flour from western mills to South America was not feasible at the present time and that even the export to Cuba and other islands in West India would hardly prove profitable. Mr. Cole was continued as chairman of the committee on flour export to South America.

A general discussion on the over-production of flour was indulged in; the majority were inclined to favor shutting down their mills whenever markets were overstocked and prices were unremunerative; such shutting down was thought less expensive than to continue running under adverse circumstances.

A lengthy discussion arose about the Millers' National Insurance Company, and the newspaper controversies concerning that company. It ap-

peared that some of the leading millers of the state had come together some time ago for consultation and personal investigation,—they gave their views in full. It was finally decided to have a committee appointed to draft resolutions covering the sentiment of the Association in regard to the Millers' National Insurance Company. The chair appointed Messrs. J. F. Imbs of Belleville, W. D. Sparks of Alton and A. J. Meek of Marissa as such committee. These gentlemen reported as follows:

The prosperous condition of the Millers' National Insurance Company of Chicago, as exhibited in its official reports and fully confirmed by a close and impartial examination on behalf of the Millers' State Association of Illinois, assures us that said Millers' National Insurance Company has been and is now being managed with great care and good judgment for the benefit and protection of the policy holders. And we are further assured that said Company is owned and controlled by its policy holders for the sole interest of the policy holders.

We hereby wish to convey the thanks of the Illinois Millers' State Association to the Board of Directors and to all the officers of the Millers' National Insurance Company for the honest, prudent and judicious manner in which they have managed the affairs of the company.

In view of the ample surplus, excellent financial standing and the ability of the management, we respectfully request the Millers' National Insurance Company to increase the maximum of any one risk to fifteen thousand dollars, so as to permit the millers to enjoy to a still greater extent the benefits derived through said Company.

J. F. IMBS,
W. D. SPARKS,
A. J. MECK,

Committee.

The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted, and at the suggestion of President Kreider the Secretary was instructed to furnish a copy to all the milling papers of the United States for publication.

The statement showing the condition of the Illinois Millers' Mutual Fire Insurance As-

sociation of Alton was found highly gratifying. The amount at risk has increased to two and one-half million dollars, and the available cash assets to seventy-five thousand dollars, showing a healthy surplus commensurate to the volume of business.

The so-called Hatch Anti-Option bill was endorsed by a vote of approval, though some doubts were expressed as to the expediency and practical workings of such a bill.

Patent litigation was discussed. No Illinois miller had been threatened with suits for infringement of patents on mill machinery, but should there be, it was the unanimous opinion to make common cause against the common enemy.

All the old officers were re-elected:

E. C. Kreider, President.

F. W. Brickley, Vice-President.

C. B. Cole, Representative in the Directory of the Millers' National Association.

C. H. Seybt, Secretary and Treasurer.

Henry Schurmann, Assistant Secretary.

The convention then adjourned.

HENRY SCHURMANN,
Assistant Secretary.

MICHIGAN STATE MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Lansing, Mich., Dec. 10, 1892.

To the Millers of Michigan:

The regular annual meeting of the Michigan State Millers' Association will be held in the City of Lansing, Tuesday, January 10, 1893, commencing at 10 A. M. The date named is the day preceding the annual meeting of The Michigan Millers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which will admit of the policy holders and officers of the Company attending both meetings without additional expense.

The Second Annual Banquet of the Association will be held the evening of the 10th.

A program will be prepared and mailed later, which will give full particulars of the special matters to come up for consideration at the meeting, and it is safe to say it will contain subjects of interest to all Michigan millers.

To all millers who are not members of the Association, and to other persons who may receive this notice, a cordial invitation is extended to be with us. Our honorable members particularly are requested to be represented.

Millers who are not members of the Association, and who may desire to join it, are respectfully reminded of the following resolution adopted at our last annual meeting which by its terms became operative May 1, 1892:

"Resolved, That the membership of this Association be and is hereby limited to one hundred members, and that from and after the first day of May next no person or firm shall become members of this Association without first paying twice the amount of the present annual dues for his or their membership fee."

In view of the fact that there are only seven vacancies in our membership it has been suggested that applications be sent with this notice, which may be filled out, signed and returned to the Secretary, without a remittance, with the understanding that the Association

at this meeting will pass upon the question of receiving on the old basis such applications as may be made previous to January 10, 1893, the applications to be considered in the order received, and if not accepted at the old figures to be promptly returned—but if so accepted then the applicants are to remit upon notice of their acceptance, their membership to commence with the date of the meeting.

Applications for membership are accordingly enclosed to millers not members of the Association and a cordial invitation extended to any who choose, to use them on the terms above mentioned.

By order of

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. B. KNICKERBOCKER, President.
M. A. REYNOLDS, Secretary.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION.

THE National Transportation Association held its annual meeting at the Merchant's Exchange, Buffalo, N. Y., November 16th, 1892. The organization and purpose of the Association were fully explained in our November number. Following is a list of members in attendance at the Buffalo meeting: President F. L. Greenleaf, Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce; vice-president, George M. Lane, Detroit Board of Trade; secretary George F. Stone, Chicago Board of Trade; C. E. Richardson, Chicago Board of Trade; E. P. Wilson, Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce; Wm. Thurstone, Buffalo Merchants' Exchange; W. R. Campbell, Louisville Board of Trade; R. C. Grier, Peoria Board of Trade; C. M. Paine, Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce; N. G. Iglehart, Chicago Freight Bureau; Frank Barry, Millers' National Association; W. S. Young, Baltimore Corn and Flour Exchange; Ryerson Ritchie, Cleveland Board of Trade; Jerome Carty, Philadelphia Merchants' and Manufacturers' Club; D. S. Ranlett, Boston Chamber of Commerce.

The Association divided its work into a morning and afternoon session. The morning session was devoted to routine business, consisting, mainly, of receiving reports of standing committees. The report of the Executive Committee having been made, N. G. Iglehart presented an interesting report on car service.

It was the sense of the meeting that the subject of demurrage and car service was of a great deal of importance to the Association and to all bodies represented and it was considered, as the question is important alike to shippers and the railroad companies, that before going to Congress for the enactment of any law, it would be wise for the representatives of the bodies represented in the Association and also of the transportation companies to meet and endeavor to come to some understanding and formulate some rule that would be

satisfactory to the transportation lines as well as to the shippers. It was said that members of the committee had discussed the question with representative railroad men and some of them said they would be perfectly willing to have such a rule adopted as would give the shippers a claim for demurrage against the railroad companies in cases where the property was not forwarded to its destination within a reasonable time.

The Bill of Lading Committee reported that it had appeared before the Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives and the Interstate Commerce Commission and contended for a simple and straightforward bill of lading that should avoid the objectionable features that are now thrust upon shippers by the roads in the present bill of lading. They feel that the end desired will be attained in a reasonable time.

Mr. Iglehart stated that the subject of uniform classification was of vital importance to shippers and to the National Association as well as to the railroads. He said the question was of importance to the whole country and especially to Chicago and the Mississippi Valley, where the provisions of one classification lap over into the territory of another and, by so doing, produce inequalities and much discrimination against certain sections of the country.

It was decided to have a committee appointed on uniform classification.

The membership of the Association was increased by the admission of the Merchants' and Manufacturers Club of Philadelphia and the National Paint and Varnish Association of St. Louis. It was voted to raise \$1500. for the coming year's expenses.

When the business attending the accepting of the treasurer's report had been transacted, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with and resulted as follows:

President, George M. Lane, Detroit; vice-president, W. S. Young, Baltimore; secretary, George F. Stone, Chicago; Treasurer, F. H. Magdeburg, Milwaukee; Counsel, Jerome Carty, Philadelphia.

The following were elected members of the Executive Committee: E. P. Wilson, D. E. Richardson, D. W. Ranlett, R. C. Grier, Frank Barry. The next place of meeting will be Baltimore. After a short discussion on matters of interest to the members of the Association the meeting adjourned until 3 P. M.

On reassembling in the afternoon an address on "Pooling" was given by A. F. Walker of Chicago, formerly president of the Western Traffic Association, during which the speaker dealt principally with railway pools

and competition. He said that in some respects the attitude of railroads in regard to competition is the same as any other business. Anything that interferes with competition is contrary to law, and class legislation is contrary to the general conditions that run a society. Like every other thing, competition may be excessive; it is possible to compete too much. When two merchants try to compete unjustly with each other, one must ultimately fail. Take the case of labor. Why have organizations been established? Simply because the labor market is overcrowded and no one will dispute the fact that labor men are not perfectly justified in trying to uphold their action. So long as no extortion is practiced, no one should say anything against trusts. Excessive competition breeds bankruptcy and, unless something is found to modify it, competition will, before long, be a thing of the past. The true policy is to let a business entirely alone so long as it is fairly conducted; a combination that simply wants to keep up fair prices is not contrary to public policy.

More competition is found in railroading than in any other industry. It is not confined to transportation alone, but it is seen in many departments. The railroad plant is peculiar. It has only one application, which cannot be modified. The public welfare requires the railroads to have a revenue which will allow provisions for the comforts of their patrons.

Referring to railroad pools, the speaker said: "While these evils are prejudicial to the railroads, they are also prejudicial to the public. What the public needs is a fair rate and one that is kept generally permanent. The average railroad charges now are about one-fourth of what they were thirty years ago. The cardinal principle of the Inter-State Commerce law was to have a good rate and a fixed one. It also prohibits rebates and overcharges. Has it had the effect it was intended to have? No, it is impossible to make men good by passing a law. It is clear that something must be done. Fluctuations have been numerous in the course of the present year. In France the railroads do not have to pool. The six railroads divide the territory and each one does as it sees fit. An effort should be made to retain the American railroads and minimize the defects."

E. P. Wilson, of the Cincinnati Merchants' Exchange, introduced the following resolutions which were adopted:

Resolved, That this Association favors only such amendments to the Inter-State Commerce law as will result in:

First—Improvement in the service due to the public by carriers.

Second—Compliance with the law upon the part of transporters.

Third—Simplification of methods of procedure under that law.

Fourth—Conclusive or progressive effect being given to findings and rulings of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

Fifth—Removal of obstacles in existing legislation which may be found to be detrimental to the transaction of business between transporters and the public.

The meeting then adjourned.

It is reported that S. M. Brua, through his attorneys, has commenced suit against nine milling firms, of Berks county, Pa., for infringement of patents claimed by him.

News.

THE OWENSBORO (Ky.) ELEVATOR Co. will erect a grain elevator.

THE FENTON MILLING Co. will build a \$15,000 plant at Fenton, Mo.

THE HAWKEYE MILLING Co., are preparing to build a mill at Sioux City, Ia.

It is reported that Anderson & Shaffer, millers at Hamilton, O., have sold out.

H. P. CROCKETT has sold his flouring mill at Seymour, Ind., to A. J. Ketting.

R. A. LONG will build and operate a roller process grist mill at Beaufort, S. C.

BALLET & STRAUS BROS., millers at Pierceton, Ind., have dissolved partnership.

MESSRS. BATES & EDMISTON succeeded Messrs. Suiter, Daniels & Co., at Lafayette Or.

THE PARAGOULD (Ark.) ROLLER MILL Co., has been incorporated. Capital stock, \$12,000.

M. W. GARNER and A. Gurthrie will build a roller process flouring mill at Quitman, Ark.

HOEFMAN & KERR, millers at Marcellus, Mich., are succeeded by the Marcellus Milling Co.

G. H. GARDNER & BRO. will remodel their mill and build an elevator at Leitchfield, Ky.

W. R. WRIGHT will add flouring mill machinery to his cotton gin and grist mill at Allendale, S. C.

COSGROVE & HANNAH have let a contract for a 40-barrel roller mill to be erected at Rosa, Linn Co., Ore.

THE YATES CENTRE (Kan.) MILLING Co. has been incorporated. Capital, \$10,000. G. A. Farnam, is the director.

THE mill of the Bucks Milling Co. of Columbia, Tenn., has been transferred to and is now being operated by W. E. Baird & Co.

A COMPANY has been organized to establish a 50-barrel flouring mill at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., Henry T. Patton is President.

WASHINGTON, Ind.—The Washington Milling Company incorporated; capital stock \$25,000. H. C. Baar, M. T. Carahan, R. C. Davis.

THE MORRILL MILL & IMPROVEMENT Co., has been incorporated with a capital of \$50,000, to build a flour mill at Vernon, Texas.

A COMPANY known as the E. P. Knight Co., will erect a transfer elevator at the junction of the Lake Erie and Belt railways, Lafayette, Ind.

C. J. KESLER, J. Holmes and F. S. Davis are the incorporators of the

Kesler, Holmes & Davis Elevator Co., at East Lynn, Ill., Capital stock \$6,000.

THE BELL COUNTY ROLLER MILLS Co., capital \$30,000 has been incorporated at Belton, Tex., to build and operate a flour mill. T. W. Cochran and others are interested.

W. L. FAIN of Atlanta, Ga., will sell his milling business to the Atlanta Mill and Grain Co., a new incorporation, which will build a corn mill of 2,000 bushels daily capacity, and also erect a grain elevator and warehouse.

AN unusually well-equipped flour mill has just been completed and put in operation at Lakefield, Minn. The proprietors, A. A. Fosness and W. J. Milne, are planning an extensive business. The mill has been built at a cost of \$12,000 and has a capacity of 100 barrels per day.

JAMES H. MILLER, Pillsbury's head miller, J. F. Harrison representing the E. P. Allis Company of Milwaukee, and William Sheder of Minneapolis, looked over the Daisy mill at Superior, Wis., recently, and the old rumor is revived that Pillsbury intends erecting a 10,000-barrel mill there.

BARCLAY Co., of Fergus Falls, Minn., recently closed a contract with the Land and River Improvement Company to build a 1,200-barrel mill on Hughitt slip, West Superior, Wis. By the terms of their contract they are to erect a brick building to cost not less than \$50,000. Operations are to begin March 1, 1893, and to be completed Sept. 1 of the same year.

MOORHEAD, Minn., Dec. 1.—Receiver Nye, some time ago sold the Moorhead mill to the North Dakota Milling Association. The mill was considerably out of repair, and the new owners now have a force of men at work refitting it. Nearly all the old machinery will be replaced with new and of the latest patterns. The mill will be made into a 500-barrel mill, and will commence grinding in about two months. It will greatly benefit Moorhead to have the mill in operation.

H. W. BONNEY and Paul brothers have closed a lease of ground on the river, just west of the Centennial mill site, says the Spokane, Wash., *Spokesman*. They are arranging for the immediate erection of a flouring mill upon this site, to be equipped with the most modern machinery, of 250 barrels capacity. Plans for the mill have not yet been drafted, but it is understood that ample capital is at hand for the erection of a handsome structure of brick and stone that will rival the new Echo mills.

Florida and the Sunny South, via the Big Four Route.

To all persons contemplating a southern trip, the Big Four offers special attractions and advantages possessed by no other line. Solid vestibuled trains, heated with steam and equipped with palace sleeping cars, reclining chair cars and elegant parlor cafe dining cars run daily, making connection in Central Union Station, Cincinnati, with through express trains of the Queen & Crescent Route, Louisville & Nashville, Kentucky Central and Chesapeake & Ohio Railways, avoiding the tedious transfer necessary on other lines and affording practically through train service to Old Point Comfort, Asheville, Chattanooga, New Orleans, Savannah, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Tampa, Indian River and all winter resorts of the South. Tourist tickets via the Popular Big Four Route at special low rates are on sale at all coupon ticket offices throughout the country. Ask the agent for ticket via the Big Four route. D. B. MARTIN, General Passenger Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

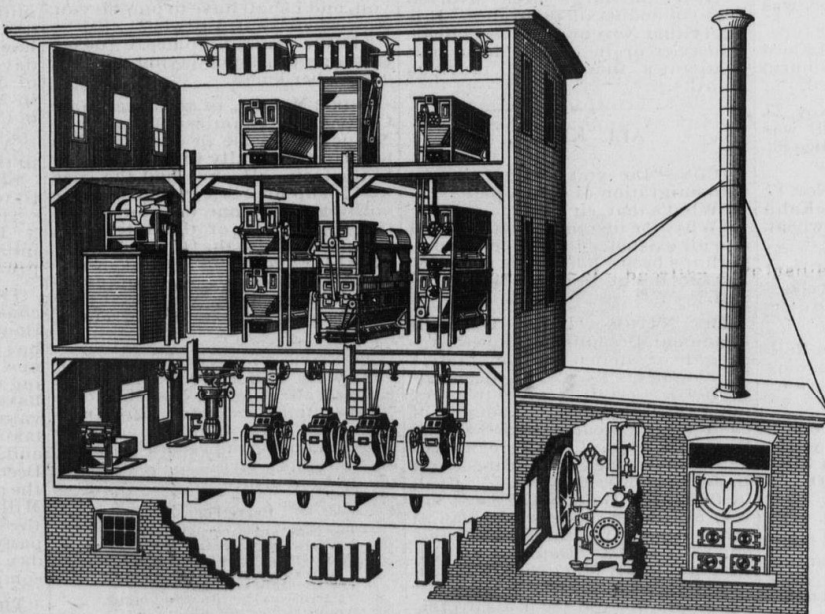
IMPROVED FLOUR MILLS.

THE accompanying engraving represents the interior view of one of the Edw. P. Allis Co.'s latest improved fifty-barrel flouring mills. The building is 30x40 ft., with basement and three stories, and an engine and boiler room 24x30 ft., one story high adjoining the mill house on one end. The mill house proper is of frame and may be covered outside with corrugated or stamped steel, shiplap or a four inch brick veneer wall. The engine room is of brick. There are four double Gray's noiseless belt roller mills on the first floor designed for making three reductions of wheat on corrugated rolls and five reductions of middlings on smooth rolls. A wheat heater is to be located above the first break rolls to enable the miller to toughen the bran during cold, frosty weather. The wheat breaks are scalped on one of the Reliance three break scalpings, the sieve of which has a circular or gyrating motion similar to the motion imparted to a hand sieve when testing a small sample of stock, and has the best amount of scouring action possible in mechanical devices. The motion also causes the light branny particles to float on top of the flour and middlings and ride off over them to the discharge spout. The cloth of the sieve is kept clean by a traveling brush. All bolting, except the tailings, is performed on Gray's patent flour dressers. These machines have iron reels with inside dust-tight drums to keep the stock near to the cloth and avoiding the dashing action to be contended with in an open reel. There are inter-elevators inside to extend the bolting surface as much as possible, double iron conveyors with reversible iron flights, an excellent feeder and discharge, and convenient cut-offs, about every five inches. The shafts of reel and conveyors revolve in bab-bitted journal boxes and all cloth used is of the genuine Dufour brand. The tailings are finished on Gray's improved centrifugal reels as it is too soft and greasy to be handled effectively in any mill on merely round reels. Centrifugal reels at this point insure easier bolting and dryer feed. The purifying of middlings is done on Gray's Combined Dustless Purifiers which are really an Air Belt Purifier and a Sieve Purifier combined, both returning their air, neither discharging any air into the mill or drawing any from outside.

This purifier is now at work in a large number of mills, attracting much attention wherever it is in operation and doing far superior work than has heretofore been done on sieve machines alone. Three grades of flour are made: patent, baker's and low grade. These may be afterwards mixed, if so desired, in varying proportions. Flour is packed in 50 lb. and 25 lb. sacks by a Jewel packer.

Wheat is received from cars and wagons in a 60 bus. hopper scale. From there it is fed down into a milling separator, then elevated to a horizontal close scourer on the second floor where it is ready for the first break rolls.

The power plant consists of an 8x24 Reynold's Corliss Engine and a 40x12 steel tubular boiler with heater, duplex pump and all the usual trimmings. Such a mill as the foregoing can be built for about \$9000, in-



cluding building, all ready to turn out excellent flour. The manufacturers, The Edward P. Allis Co. of Milwaukee, Wis., have just published a catalogue entitled: "Small Modern Mills," bound in cloth, which contains many illustrations and also estimates of cost for fourteen sizes of mills, from 25 to 100 barrels capacity. It is, in fact, a complete guide for any miller who is about to build a mill. It will be gladly sent free to any reader who mentions the UNITED STATES MILLER when writing for a copy.

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 22, 1892.

Providence Steam & Gas Pipe Co., City.
GENTLEMEN:—We had a test of the value of your automatic sprinkler system Sunday morning. A pile of boards in one corner of the basement by some means caught fire. There being a strong wind blowing and an opening in the wall, on account of the building operations next door, the draught quickly carried the flames towards the ceiling.

Within a few minutes after the commencement of the fire, one of the sprinkler heads went off and partially extinguished the blaze. The fire department arrived but, from the effective manner in which the system worked, it was apparent that it would of itself have extinguished the fire.

You can use our name as reference to any prospective purchaser of this system. We are delighted with the way it worked.

Yours truly,
S. FRANKLIN.

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

An Administrative and not a Judicial Body.

JUDGE Gresham has rendered the most important decision which has been handed down since the interstate law was enacted. Last July W. C. Brinson, Sumner Hopkins, Henry Walker, W. R. Sterling and other railroad officials, charged with having given unlawful advantage to the Illinois Steel Company, of Chicago, in the

and that the court could not be used in aid of an investigation before such a tribunal. The jurisdiction of the courts of the United States is limited, the judge says, and it is not competent for congress to confer upon them authority which is not strictly judicial and clearly within the grant found in the third article of the constitution.

District Attorney Milchrist at once gave notice that he should apply for a review of the case in the supreme court. The railroad lawyers are jubilant, feeling that they have now virtually established the unconstitutionality of the act.

LITERARY.

THE *Review of Reviews* for December sustains with remarkable enterprise and ability the great reputation this magazine has won for timeliness, exact pertinency and wide range of interest. Among its almost countless illustrations are groups including some thirty of the newly-elected Governors of States. No other magazine could possibly have secured and made such illustrations and embodied them in its December number, for in many instances it was not definitely known until the middle of November who were actually elected as Governors. The editor's review of the election and his discussion of the results will attract wide attention. The editorial department, entitled, "The Progress of the World," is unusually extended this month.

THE Christmas number of *Harper's Young People*, published December 6th, contains illustrated Christmas stories by William Drysdale, Harriet Prescott Spofford and John Kendrick Bangs; a Christmas pantomime in one act, entitled "Dresden China," by Ellen Douglas Deland; a Christmas poem, "A Song of Kriss Kringle's Tree," by Margaret E. Sangster; a practical article, with illustrations, on Christmas presents, entitled "A Visit to Santa Claus's Warehouse," by Margaret Fezandie; and a full-page illustration, "Christmas Morning," by Otto Beck. There are also a number of short articles on a variety of subjects, and the continuation of Kirk Munroe's interesting serial, "Raftmates," besides the usual supplement and a beautiful cover specially designed for this issue.

DEATHS.

GEO. FORRESTER, of the firm of Forrester Bros., millers, at Little Falls, Minn., died Nov. 26, aged 35 years.

ELLIS BRIGGS, owner of a flouring mill at Roodhouse, Ill., died recently.

M. C. SAGE, of the firm of M. C. Sage & Son, millers, at Adamsville, Mich., died recently.

I. C. PLANT, senior partner of the Georgia Mill & Elevator Co., Macon, Ga., is dead.

STEPHEN E. SMITH, owner of a grist mill at Apponaug, R. I., is dead.

matter of freight rates, refused to answer certain questions propounded by the International Commerce Commission, or produce books, declaring that the interstate commerce law did not give the commission the functions of a grand jury and that it had no right to carry on such investigation in the absence of a formal complaint.

United States District Attorney Milchrist contended that something should be done to make witnesses answer questions as to the jurisdiction of the commission and he filed a petition in the circuit court before Judge Gresham to require the refractory witnesses to answer questions and produce books asked for. Judge Gresham, in a long opinion, refused to grant the petition, holding that the Interstate Commerce Commission is an administrative, and not a judicial body,

ABSOLUTE FIRE PROTECTION.

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

The Grinnell Automatic Sprinkler

OVER 1100 FIRES EXTINGUISHED.

The National Milling Company's new mill at Toledo, O., equipped with the Grinnell Sprinkler system, is insured in first-class companies at less than 1½ per cent.

HOME OFFICE:

.....

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

B. W. DAWLEY, General Western Agent,
PROVIDENCE STEAM AND GAS PIPE COMPANY,

115 MONROE STREET,

CHICAGO, ILL.

FIRES.

THE Atlanta Grain Elevator, at Atlanta, Ga., burned. Loss \$10,000.

THE T. D. McMILLAN elevator at Seymour, Tex., was burned recently. Loss \$12,000.

At Rapid City, S. D., Dec. 2, Himebaugh Bros.' grain elevator was burned. Loss \$5,000.

At Columbus, O., Nov. 25, McCord & Kelley's grain elevator was burned. Loss \$25,000; fully insured.

At St. Catharines, Ont., Nov. 25, the Morning Star Grist Mill was burned. Loss \$7,000; insurance \$3,500.

At Claribel Station, Cal., Nov. 17, the warehouse of Haslacher & Kahn was burned with 4,000 tons of wheat. Loss \$110,000.

THE flour and grist mills of Paul B. Rucker, located in Amherst county, near Lynchburg, Va., were destroyed by fire recently.

D. V. FREDENBURG'S "Crown Roller Mills" at Alexandria, Minn., were burned Dec. 1. The mills are a total loss, estimated at \$10,000.

OGILVIE'S Virden Elevator, one of the largest in Manitoba, was destroyed by fire Dec. 5, with 20,000 bushels of wheat. Loss \$30,000; insured.

At Lanesboro, Minn., Dec. 1, W. G. Wall's large store and brick flouring mills, rented to the Remington & Leahy Co., were burned. Loss about \$30,000; partially insured.

At Zumbro Falls, Minn., Nov. 26, the H. J. O'Neil elevator was burned. The elevator was filled with barley. The fire was, doubtless, the work of an incendiary. Loss and insurance not stated.

THE large cooper shop, owned by Cargill & Fall at Houston, Minn., was burned Nov. 28. The machinery was totally destroyed together with about 500 ready made barrels. Loss \$3,000; insurance \$1,200. They will rebuild.

NOVEMBER'S FIRE LOSSES.—The fire loss of the United States and Canada, for the month of November, as compiled from its daily files, by the *Commercial Bulletin* shows a total of \$12,008,700.

The following statistics will exhibit the losses during the first eleven months of 1890, 1891 and 1892:

	1890.	1891.	1892.
January.....	\$9,179,300	\$11,230,900	\$12,564,000
February.....	7,287,025	9,226,500	11,914,000
March.....	8,466,300	12,540,750	10,648,000
April.....	8,285,520	11,309,000	11,559,800
May.....	8,839,100	16,660,385	9,485,000
June.....	5,655,000	8,587,025	9,265,550
July.....	14,723,500	9,922,200	11,530,000
August.....	9,069,100	9,055,100	10,145,300
September.....	6,943,700	10,658,200	7,879,800
October.....	7,279,500	13,248,300	13,349,200
November.....	5,351,300	14,736,100	12,008,700

Total.....\$94,118,345 \$124,180,050 \$120,350,250
There were 190 fires during the month of a greater destructiveness

than \$10,000. Among these latter were the following: Dixie, Ore., flour mill and warehouse \$30,000; Leighton, Pa., flouring mills, \$50,000; Topeka, Kan., flour mills \$30,000; Beatrice Neb., grain elevator, \$18,000; Columbus, O., grain elevator, \$25,000; Atlanta, Ga., grain elevator, \$10,000; Weatherford, Tex., flour mills, \$20,000.

All of the large fires involved heavy amounts of insurance. It is likely that November's losses made a heavier drain on the insurance companies than many previous months.

ALL KINDS.

JUDY—"Do you believe in the transmigration of souls, Joe?"

"What's that, sir?"

"Why, for instance, that cow had a prior existence in another form—perhaps been a being like myself." "O no doubt the cow 's been a calf."

THE NATION'S DEBT.—The debt statement, December 1, shows: Aggregate of interest and non-interest bearing debts, \$965,242,799; decrease, \$1,079,935. Certificates and treasury notes off-set by an equal amount of cash in the treasury, \$598,369,656; increase, \$360,780. Aggregate of debt, including certificates and treasury notes, \$1,563,612,455. Cash in treasury: Gold, \$247,598,468; silver, \$458,496,138; paper, \$43,345,079; other bonds, fractional currency, etc., \$765,474,802. Demand liabilities, gold, silver, currency certificates, etc., \$598,369,656; redemption fund, balances and accounts, \$36,776,228; gold reserve and net cash balance, \$130,328,918; aggregate, \$765,474,802; cash balance in treasury Oct. 31, 1892, \$131,011,402; cash balance in treasury, Nov. 30, 1892, \$130,328,918 decrease during month, \$682,484.

A DETROIT man was visiting a farm with his six-year-old boy, and in passing a field the boy's attention was called to a machine in it.

"What's that, papa?" he enquired.

"A reaper and mower," replied the father.

"How much more, papa?" asked the boy, innocently, and the father began to think how the name might strike one who was ignorant of such things.—*Detroit Free Press*.

THE new elevator just completed at Southport, La., for the Illinois Central system gives a total grain storage of half a million bushels at that point of shipment. With the new plant five cars of grain can be unloaded at a time, and the delivery to the steamers can be carried on while unloading is in progress. The elevator can easily deliver 7,500 bushels an hour. Of course the roads could operate the elevator at a speed of 10,000 bushels an hour, but the ships have to be trimmed after being loaded, and other delays occur, so that the lower average will be quite satisfactory. The

general run of ships take from 25,000 to 75,000 bushels, and often full cargo steamers hold from 90,000 to 130,000 bushels.—*Tradesman*.

THE four children had been naughty again, and the mother called them up for reproof.

"You've been very naughty," she said, taking off her slipper, "all of you, and I shall have to punish you. Now where shall I begin?"

"In the same old place, I guess," said one of them, laying himself across her knees.

JUDGE McDILL, of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, has the Minneapolis case in charge and is laboring faithfully to apply the law to the facts. He has had the case written up for review, and there is nothing to be done now but prove the application of the inter-state commerce law to the facts complained of by Minneapolis. The commissioners will probably be unanimous in rendering decision, there being no disagreement in any essential point.

A PETITION presented in the Senate by Mr. Peffer from citizens of Kansas, alleging the existence of a combination between elevators, millers and railroads of Minneapolis and St. Louis to depreciate the price of grain was referred to the committee on agriculture.

Every Time.

The constant drop of water
Wears away the hardest stone;
The constant gnaw of towsers
Masticates the toughest bone;
The constant cooing lover
Carries off the blushing maid,
And the constant advertiser
Is the one who gets the trade.

—Wahoo Wasp.

THE Listman mill now in course of construction on the Toledo pier at West Superior, Wis., is to be completed April 1. It is being built by L. C. Barnett & Co., the Minneapolis contractors, who are building two other mills. The plans for the buildings were made by the E. P. Allis Co. The mill proper is 110x70 feet and will be seven stories high, five of which are now completed. The first story will be 20 feet high, the second 14, the third 22, the next two 14, the sixth 17, and the top 14 feet. The roof will be finished by December 15, and will be of steel with gravel. The cupola, in which will be located the automatic sprinkler, will be 18 feet high. The post girders used in the building are 12x18, and of the best class of timber.

ARTEMAS WARD said: "The repetition of advertising is one of its main forces. The Bible tells us of the man who was heard and supplied 'because of his importunity.' The boy crying the evening papers, or the boot-black repeating his 'shine, shine, sir,' often calls us out of our 'brown study' to a realization of our ordinary needs."

BUSINESS MAN—"You remember that ad. I had in your paper and took

out two months ago? Well, I want to have it put back again."

Editor—"Why, I thought you said no one noticed it while it was in."

Business Man [humbly]—They didn't seem to till I took it out."—*Clothier and Furnisher*.

IN the State of Coahuila, Mexico, are located two of the finest flour mills in the republic, one at Torreon and the other at Saltillo, the latter having a capacity of 150 barrels per day, and an elevator with a capacity of 50,000 bushels. The best wheat in Mexico is grown in the uplands of Coahuila.

"ARE there many men unemployed in this town?"

"I don't know. If you can wait until to-morrow I'll tell you."

"How will you know to-morrow?"

"There's going to be a safe moved into a three-story building on the principal street."—*New York Press*.

THE NORTH DAKOTA MILLING Co., consolidated, commenced operations December 1. The company has been capitalized at \$1,250,000, and now includes nineteen of the leading flouring mills in the State, which have been purchased at appraised values, the owners in some cases taking stock in the new company, and in other cases being paid cash. Deeds were filed for the transfer of the mill and elevator of the Northern Milling Company at \$35,000, and of the Grand Forks Roller Mill Company at \$42,000. J. M. Turner of Mandan has been elected manager of the company.

THE exports of flour and wheat from the United States during November were equal to 17,794,347 bu. against 20,101,989 bu. for November 1891. The aggregate exports for five months were about 90,000,000 bu. against 106,076,933 bu. for the corresponding time in 1891.

Winter Resorts of the South.

Jacksonville and Tampa, Fla. and other South Atlantic and gulf coast resorts can be reached with but one change of cars from Chicago, and that at Louisville or Cincinnati, where the Monon makes close connection with the L. & N. and Q. & C. vestibule trains, running through to Florida.

The Monon's day trains are now all equipped with beautiful new parlor and dining cars, while its night trains are made up of smoking cars, day coaches, and Pullman and compartment sleepers, lighted by electricity from headlight to hindmost sleeper.

The Monon has gradually fought its way to the front, making extensive improvements in its road-bed and service, until today it is the best equipped line from Chicago to the South, offering its patrons facilities and accommodations second to none in the world and at rates lower than ever before.

CHAS. D. COX, Manager.

MAXIMUM LINES, - - - \$170,000.00.

C. W. MEEKER, Ass't Manager.

Western
 The Mutual Fire Ins. Co., New York.
 TOTAL CASH ASSETS, \$1,511,192.21.
 NET CASH SURPLUS TO POLICY HOLDERS, \$861,376.55.
 FIRE INSURANCE
 AT
 MINIMUM RATES
 ON RISKS EQUIPPED WITH APPROVED SYSTEMS OF
 AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS.
 The American Lloyds, New York.
 TOTAL CASH ASSETS, \$235,692.13. NET CASH SURPLUS, \$214,308.63.
 The New York Fire Insurance Company, New York.
 SELECTED RISKS ONLY.

226 and 228 La Salle Street,

CHICAGO.

THE NOYE CORN-MEAL PURIFIER.

This machine, illustrated herewith, is specially designed for degerminating and purifying thoroughly and economically fine table meal or granulated corn-meal for brewers' or distillers' use. It is the result of long observation and experience, and in its present form embodies a number of improvements suggested by the requirements of the day. In design it is simple and compact; in construction stable and durable, requiring but little power.

The Noye corn-meal purifier accomplishes a complete aspiration and purification of the pearl meal and grits, thoroughly separating the bran and germ, and is what may reasonably be called an indispensable machine. It is made and sold exclusively by the John T. Noye Manufacturing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

DECIDED IN THE COURTS.

KEEPING AND INJURING MACHINERY SOLD CONDITIONALLY.—Where the purchaser of machinery, by the terms of his contract, has a reasonable time after he receives it to make known its defects, but instead of doing it he keeps and uses the machinery for some length of time, and until the seller seeks to recover the property under the contract because of failure to pay for it, this is a ratification of the contract by the purchaser even if the machinery was defective. And in such suit to recover the machinery the seller may introduce evidence that the purchaser has used the property from the time of its delivery to him, and that it has been greatly damaged by such use, other than the deterioration from attempting to use the machinery in a proper way, and be allowed therefor.—Huyett & Smith Mfg. Co. v. Gray, Supreme Court of North Carolina, 15 S. E. Rep. 939.

DUTIES AN EMPLOYER OWES TO HIS EMPLOYEES.—Every work-

man has the right to suppose that his employer has provided such guards and means of protection from injury in the use of the machinery, tools and appliances as are usual and reasonably necessary for his safety; and he cannot be held to assume the risks attendant on their absence, unless such absence is apparent, or his attention has been called to it. If the business is one with which he is not familiar, he has a

ordinary care to protect them from risks which they cannot properly appreciate, and to which they should not be exposed. The duty in such cases to warn and instruct grows naturally out of the ignorance or inexperience of the employee, and it does not extend to those who are of mature years, and who are familiar with the employment and its risks. Where a master voluntarily subjects his servant to dangers, such as

of Pennsylvania, 25 At. Rep. 130.

DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY OF MACHINERY.—Special damages for breach of warranty must be such as were within the contemplation of the parties as the necessary result of the breach of warranty, and are rarely allowable, except in cases of fraud in inducing the contract. To illustrate: Where an action was for breach of warranty of a reaping machine, it was held that the purchaser could not recover for the time and grain lost in attempting to operate the defective mower. And so in action of replevin for a dry kiln, brought by the seller, who retained title until the full payment of the purchase money against the purchaser in default, the purchaser cannot recover by way of counter-claim, as damages for breach of warranty contained in the contract of sale, the cost of a house constructed by him in which to place the dry kiln, and which house is valueless for any other purpose.—Huyett & Smith Mfg. Co. v. Gray, Supreme Court of North Carolina, 15 S. E. Rep. 950.

CALLING GOODS SOLD CONDITIONALLY "HIRED."—If a written contract providing for the retention of title by the vendor of personal property, with the condition affixed that the title is to remain in him until the purchase price shall have been paid as expressed in the writing, is substantially a contract of conditional sale. That the purchase money is denominated

"hire," and divided into sums payable at various periods throughout the term of credit, will not render the transaction one of letting for hire, and subject it to the law of such letting instead of the law of conditional sales.—Cottrell v. Merchants and Mechanics Bank, Supreme Court of Georgia, 15 S. E. Rep. 944.



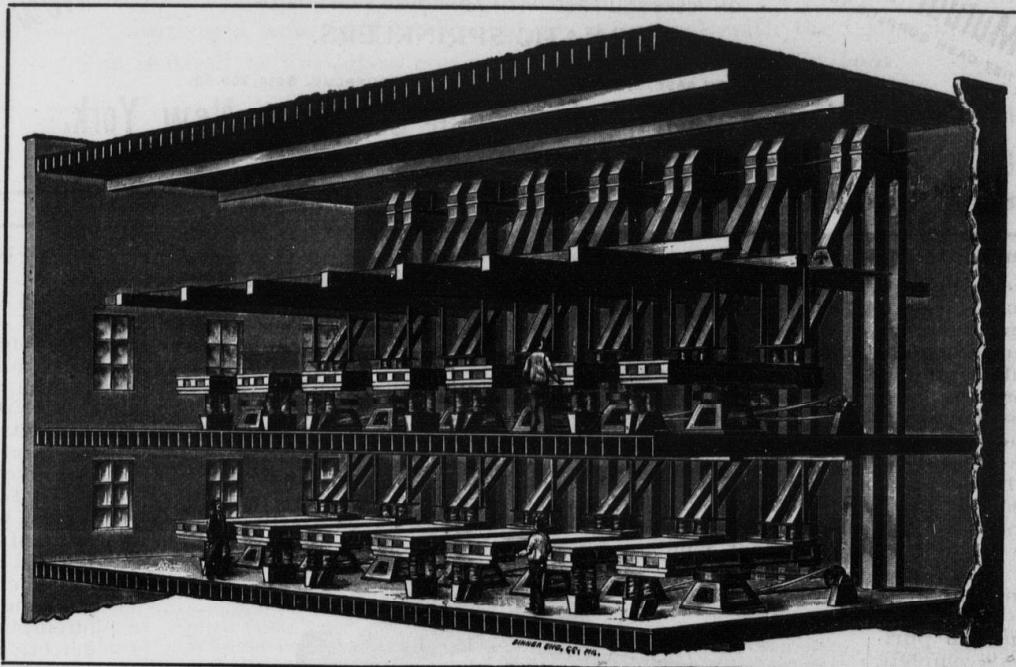
right to expect that its dangers will be pointed out to him, and that he will be instructed in those things necessary for him to know in order to secure his own safety. He cannot be held to assume the risk of dangers of the existence of which he has no knowledge. In the case of young persons it is the duty of the employer to take notice of their age and ability, and to use

in good faith he ought to provide against, he is liable for any accident arising therefrom. The servant does not stand on the same footing with the master. His primary duty is obedience, and if, when in the discharge of that duty, he is damaged through the neglect of the master, it is but meet he should be recompensed.—Kehler v. Schwenk, Supreme Court

Automatic Sieve Machine

Fully covered by U. S. Letters of Patent No. 428,719. Issued May 27, 1890.

NOW USED IN THE MILL OF **FAIST, KRAUS & CO.,** MILWAUKEE, WIS.



THE FAIST AUTOMATIC SIEVE CO. of Milwaukee have begun the manufacture of a new and novel Automatic Sieve Bolter and Separator for producing any grade of flour from the finest and purest, to the coarsest, cleaning up all grades in the most perfect manner.

WE CLAIM FOR THIS MACHINE THE FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES:

Sharper and more uniform flour.

Better and closer separations.

One machine will take the chop from any break of a 1,000-barrel mill.

It will bolt ten to twenty-five barrels of flour per hour from ground middlings.

It gives a larger yield of patent, and an improved grade of bakers.

It delivers break chop, coarse and fine middlings to purifier, and finished flour to packer, all from one machine.

Cloth is cleaned perfectly without inside conveyor, as in other machines.

A saving in power.

A saving in room.

A saving in light.

A saving in cost of insurance.

A saving in labor.

A saving in cost of building a mill.

In short, we give you five machines in one, capable of handling all the breaks from a 250-barrel mill, delivering the finished flour to packer, middlings to purifier (dusted completely), and offal to bin.

WM. FAIST, Esq., Milwaukee, Wis.:

Dear Sir—We hand you herewith our check to cover invoice for the Automatic Sieve, which we have had running for 30 days. The results are better than expected.

Very respectfully,

Kansas City, Mo., September 10, 1892.

KANSAS CITY MILLING CO.

THE FAIST AUTOMATIC SIEVE CO., Milwaukee, Wis.:

Gentlemen—We herein hand you our check \$500, balance due on the two machines purchased of you. We are highly pleased with the machines, buying them as we did without any knowledge as to how they would work on winter wheat, and we fully expected a great deal of trouble before we could get them regulated to work satisfactorily.

It is now just thirty days since we started the machines, and they have been a perfect success from the start, and we wish to say that the twenty claims you make in your circular as to the advantages of your machines over the common bolting system is not one bit too strongly drawn.

We expect to see the same revolution made by your machines in the process of bolting over the reel system that was made in grinding wheat by rolls over the stone process.

Dictated by J. P. B.

Respectfully yours,

J. E. BURROUGHS & CO.

Address, **FAIST AUTOMATIC SIEVE CO.,** Milwaukee, Wis.

Don't forget to mention this paper when you write.

Milwaukee Notes

DAVIDSON OPERA HOUSE—Every evening, Saturday and Sunday matinees.

BIJOU THEATER—Every evening, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday matinees.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Every evening and usual matinees.

STANDARD THEATER—Every evening and usual matinees.

PEOPLE'S THEATER—Every evening and usual matinees.

GERMAN STADT THEATER—Regular performances Wednesday and Sunday evenings.

LAYTON ART GALLERY—Free Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Admission 25 cents on Wednesdays and Fridays.

PUBLIC MUSEUM—Open daily. Exposition building.

THE general discontinuance of operations by the mills of the city would naturally suggest concerted action. Inquiry among the owners resulted in emphatic denials of such being the case. It is generally acknowledged that the flour market is glutted, and there is no money in manufacturing for export at present prices. Of course such a state of affairs is discussed by and between those whom it interests, but the present action of our millers is an individual one—each seemingly having arrived at the same general conclusion—that it is better to remain idle than to operate under existing circumstances. The shutting down of a flouring mill naturally calls to mind the necessity of making desired changes or repairs, and the opportunity is acted upon, hence the statement of many of our mill owners, in answer to inquiries, that repairs were being made. The Daisy Roller Mills, which has been running uninterruptedly for two years and three months, will undergo a general overhauling. The engine, which has so steadily performed its duty during the long run, necessarily requires attention, and among other repairs the cylinders will be bored out. The boilers will receive thorough inspection and all necessities supplied. It has also been found necessary to have a new foundation placed under the grain elevator, raising it two feet. Have not been informed as to what repairs or changes are to be made at the other mills, but there will be nothing done to materially change their present status.

THE firm of J. B. A. Kern & Sons was dissolved early in the present month to allow of the retirement of Mr. Fred. Kern. The business will hereafter be conducted by John F. Kern and Adolph L. Kern. The firm name remains unchanged.

In the list of November fire losses Milwaukee figures to the amount of \$280,500. This is, of course, much below the amount of the October losses, which included the Third Ward fire, but it is, comparatively, a large one for this city.

THE National Home for D. V. S. advertises for proposals to

furnish the Home with 500 barrels of second quality Patent flour, or grade equal thereto.

THE stock of wheat here on the 15th inst. is reported at 2,191,894 bushels, against 397,956 bushels the corresponding day last year and 724,902 bushels in 1890.

THE average daily flour production for the past four weeks were: Ending Nov. 19, 9,200; Nov. 26, 7,725; Dec. 3, 7,650; Dec. 10, 7,200 barrels.

FLOUR is dull. Hard spring wheat patents, in barrels, \$3.90 @4.00; soft spring wheat patents, in barrels, \$3.80 @3.90; export patents, in sacks, \$3.30 @3.40; straight choice bakers', \$3.40 @3.50; export bakers', \$2.50 @2.60; clears, hard wheat, \$2.15 @2.25; soft wheat, \$2.00 @2.10; low grades, \$1.40 @1.60; winter patents, in barrels, \$3.70 @3.80; winter straights, in barrels, \$3.30 @3.40; rye flour, in sacks, \$2.50 @2.75; in barrels, \$2.75 @3.00.

Millstuffs are steady at \$12.00 @12.25 for sacked bran and \$12.50 @12.75 for middlings.

WILLIAM SANDERSON, H. E. Brooks and Bernard Stern have incorporated the American Roller Leveling Company.

ARTICLES of organization of the Magnolia Milling Company have been filed. The organizers are James McAlpine, George Sylvester and Frederick Scheiber. This is said to be the considerably talked about Schraudenbach Company and will go into the milling business at West Superior, Wis., with a capital stock of \$500,000.

RECENT MILLING PATENTS.

The following list of patents for Milling and Grain Handling Appliances, granted during the month of November, 1892, is especially reported for the UNITED STATES MILLER, by H. G. Underwood, Patent Attorney and Solicitor, 107 Wisconsin St., Milwaukee, Wis., who will send a copy of any patent named to any address for 25 cents:

- No. 485,488—Grain Scourer, William A. Cockrell, Mount Perry, Ill.
- No. 485,520—Grain Elevator, John A. L. Wilson, Woodland, Ill.
- No. 485,525—Grain Scourer, Heman A. Barnard, Moline, Ill.
- No. 485,282—Disintegrating Roller, William H. Larman, Sligo, Md.
- No. 485,913—Gate for Conveyor Troughs, James M. Dodge, Philadelphia, Pa.
- No. 485,845—Grain Cleaner, August Heine, Silver Creek, N. Y.
- No. 485,866—Grain Cleaner, August Heine, Silver Creek, N. Y.
- No. 485,867—Bran Duster, August Heine, Silver Creek, N. Y.
- No. 485,632—Grain Weigher, John A. and David James, Coffeyville, Kas.
- No. 485,770—Grain Weigher, Albert Widick, Argonia, Kas.
- No. 486,414—Grain Separator, John E. Smith, Shiloh, Ohio.
- No. 486,789—Conveyor, George W. McCaslin, Montclair, N. J.
- No. 486,809—Conveyor, George W. McCaslin, Montclair, N. J.
- No. 486,717—Grain Carrier, James K. Karr, La Crosse, Wis.
- No. 486,502—Rolling Screen, Thomas A. Seip, Dayton, Ohio.

THE stock of wheat in California, Dec. 1, was 12,153,772 cents as compared with 9,964,575 cents at the corresponding time in 1891. The stock of flour was 92,024 barrels, against 140,043 barrels a year ago.

LIVELY ELEVATOR WORK.—At D elevator of the Lake Superior Elevator Company in Duluth, 157 carloads of wheat, containing 95,000 bushels, were unloaded and weighed in 4 hours and 40 minutes. This is the fastest record ever made by any elevator in the world. Elevator D has several times broken the record for loading out wheat, and has shipped over 450,000 bushels in ten hours. It is now conceded to be the liveliest grain house in existence.

In commenting on wheat supplies Dornbusch says: "British possessions of foreign wheat and flour already in granary or else upon the high seas mount up to 6,831,000 quarters, being 134 million quarters greater than at corresponding date in 1891, and about 2 million quarters over the supplies of 1890. It is to be feared that the unwonted circumstances of this season militate against the rapid absorption of our giant stocks. Mild weather, cheap potatoes, and an abundance of green vegetables unquestionably lessen the consumption of bread notwithstanding the low price.

THE San Francisco *Morning Call* has been investigating the subject of the presence in the flour mills of that city and state, of the Mediterranean flour moth and it declares that it has already become an alarming pest, resulting in the loss of thousands of dollars to a number of large establishments, and that it will result in still greater loss before very long. The statements are based mainly upon interviews with W. G. Johnson, professor of entomology in the Stanford University and with a number of flour manufacturers. They state that there is hardly a mill in the state which is not affected by the moth, and that all efforts to eradicate it has been unsuccessful. The moth is continually spinning strands of silk in great quantities, which not only get into the flour, but also clog the machinery so badly that the mills are obliged to shut down temporarily. Prof. Johnson, who has made a careful study of the subject, says he has discovered that the moth propagates more rapidly in this climate than in Canada, the Eastern states or other colder countries, where it appeared. He expects that the disastrous effects of this moth will be very apparent in nearly all the mills of the state before the end of another year.

A REMARKABLE NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.

COMBINATION is the characteristic of this age, and when capitalists are combining in trusts, workingmen in labor unions, farmers in alliances, etc., newspapers can hardly be blamed for joining the procession.

The Press Claims Company, whose advertisements appear in this issue, and will become familiar to our readers during the coming year, illustrates the advantages of co-operation on an extensive scale. It is a combination of hundreds of the leading newspapers of the United States, for the purpose of protecting their patrons against unscrupulous claim agents, and securing prompt, efficient and economical service to all persons having dealings with the Government. It will secure patents and pensions, perfect land titles, and attend to all other legitimate business of the kind, on term that will make its employment a necessity to claimants, having a proper regard for their own interests.

The company comes before the public, backed by the collective endorsement of over five hundred of the leading journals of the United States. Membership in this company is a guaranty of the high standing of any newspaper, all applications for stock having been carefully considered and passed upon by the Board of Directors before allotment. That THE UNITED STATES MILLER has been admitted to such an association, is a compliment which our readers will appreciate as highly as ourselves. We take pleasure in recommending the Press Claims Company to all who may desire the satisfactory transaction of business in its line.

"YOU pays your money and takes your choice." Mr. Charles D. Cox is the Western Manager of three insurance companies, each having a worldwide reputation as to stability, reliability, promptness of action in cases requiring settlement of loss and reasonable rates, consistent with the nature of the risk. We take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the advertisement in this issue and assuring all that any information regarding matters pertaining to the business will be cheerfully furnished by the Western representative of the Companies.

JUDGING from late events in the Senate, the anti-option bill will not come to a vote until after the holidays, as there will undoubtedly be the usual holiday recess, from Dec. 22 to Jan. 4, and there is no probability of any action in the matter being taken previous to the day of adjournment for recess.

THE ...
NOYE
SYSTEM.

CORN AND FEED GRINDING.



BY our system the millstone is outdone at every point. We can prove this by a hundred examples. The following machines are in it:

The Noye Six-Roll Corn and Feed Mill,

Great capacity—bright, clear, cool, even, granular meal—superior feed—little power.

The Noye Corn Screen,

An effective separator of course foreign material ahead of the rolls.

The Noye Corn Cleaner and Separator,

With air-suction and screen for removing both fine and coarse impurities.

The Noye Corn Meal Purifier and Bolt,

Giving perfect separation and purification of flour and meal.

The Noye Aspirator,

For use where separations have been made on ordinary reels and subsequent purification is desired.

The Niagara Corn Sheller,

With shaking sieve attached.

The Noye Corn and Cob Crusher,

Made of chill-hardened iron—very durable and efficient.

We should be glad to show samples and testimonials and give full particulars.

THE JOHN T. NOYE MFG. CO.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1856.



DRAWBACK ON BAGS COLLECTED.

R. F. DOWNING & CO.,

NEW YORK.



BRANCH HOUSE, 1425 EAST MAIN ST., RICHMOND, VA.

VANDUZEN GAS AND GASOLINE ENGINE
For Grain Elevators, Flour Mills and for General Uses.
STATIONARY AND PORTABLE.

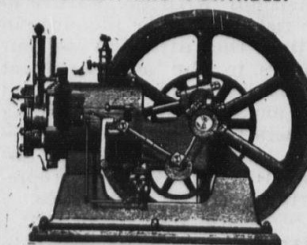
JUST THE THING FOR GRAIN ELEVATORS.

OFFICE OF WELLS BROTHERS,
DEALERS IN LUMBER, GRAIN, COAL, ETC.

Marathon, Iowa, Sept. 28, 1891.

VANDUZEN GAS & GASOLINE ENGINE CO.,
Gentlemen—We have had our engine in use about eight months, and can unhesitatingly say, the longer we use it the better we like it. It is especially adapted to elevator work. By being able to set it to run any number of revolutions per minute, from one hundred to three hundred, it enables us to regulate the speed of our cleaner to suit all kinds and conditions of grain, better than can be done with cone pulleys. We do not have to hire any special help to run it, as we start it in the morning, and it will run itself till noon or night as we desire, using gasoline only in proportion to the work done, which is about one gallon to the indicated horse-power used in ten hours time. We can start it in a few minutes when everything is cold, and "last but not least," we are paying one and three-quarter per cent. insurance, and our competitor is paying three and one-quarter per cent. for the same work, except he uses steam. Very respectfully, WELLS BROS.

Satisfaction guaranteed in every particular. For full particulars and prices address VANDUZEN GAS AND GASOLINE ENGINE CO., 27 Broadway, CINCINNATI, OHIO.



THE IMPROVED WALSH Double Turbine Water Wheel

Patent Cylinder Gate.
Easy working.
Positively no leakage.
Shipped on 30 days' trial.



More power with less water than any other wheel in the world.

MANUFACTURED BY

B. H. & J. SANFORD
SHEBOYGAN FALLS, WIS.

For special figures mention this paper.

SEND for a copy of Cawker's American Flour Mill and Grain Directory for 1892-3. Address, THE UNITED STATES MILLER, 68C Mitchell Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

DO YOU INTEND TO BUILD? PRACTICAL LOW-COST HOUSES. HOW TO BUILD THEM.



A Large Atlas, containing drawings and floor plans of 40 Modern Houses with Correct Estimates of cost of building. All kinds of buildings ranging from a \$400 cottage to a \$10,000 residence. The latest, most complete, and only practical book published. It is false economy to attempt to build without these plans.

Price by mail, post-paid, 50 cts. Stamps taken.

Address,

The United States Miller,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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And all Patent business conducted for

MODERATE FEES.

Information and advice given to inventors without charge. Address

PRESS CLAIMS CO.,
JOHN WEDDERBURN,
Managing Attorney,

P. O. Box 463.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

This Company is managed by a combination of the largest and most influential newspapers in the United States, for the express purpose of protecting their subscribers against unscrupulous and incompetent Patent Agents, and each paper printing this advertisement vouches for the responsibility and high standing of the Press Claims Company.



DUST! DUST!
GIBBS' Patent Dust Protector protects the nose and mouth from inhalations of poisonous dust; invaluable in Mills, Elevators and every industry where dust is troublesome. Perfect protection with perfect ventilation. Nickel-plated protectors \$1.00 postpaid. Circulars free. Agents wanted.
GIBBS RESPIRATOR CO.
30-36 La Salle St., CHICAGO.



S. H. SEAMANS, PUBLISHER.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

OFFICE:

68-C MITCHELL BUILDING, MILWAUKEE.

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prepaid.....\$1.00

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prepaid.....1.00

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STATES MILLER.

Bills for advertising will be sent monthly

unless otherwise agreed upon.

For estimates for advertising, address

the UNITED STATES MILLER.

[Entered at the Post-Office at Milwaukee,

Wis., as mail matter of the second class.]

MILWAUKEE, DECEMBER, 1892.

We respectfully request our readers when they write to persons or firms advertising in this paper, to mention that their advertisement was seen in the UNITED STATES MILLER. You will thereby oblige not only this paper, but the advertisers.

Editorial.

NORTHWESTERN VAPORINGS.

IN its November 25th issue, the *Northwestern Miller* says: "Month after month THE UNITED STATES MILLER has contained, under the heading 'Organization of Millers in the United States,' the following:"

Then appears the roster of organizations, which we print in another column of this paper, and which we have regularly published for some years. The editor of the paper referred to, proceeds, in the following five or six columns, to demonstrate to his own satisfaction, by means of evidence manufactured within his fertile imagination, and backed by a few alleged communications from his friends and supporters, that this roster is incorrect, ergo, the National organization is a myth. We will not take the time to analyze the weak, flimsy fabric, of his argument, the warp whereof is composed of malicious misrepresentation, and the woof of willful lies, nor will we impose upon the good nature of our readers by presenting refutation in detail of the many unfounded assertions and claims made by this fanatical opponent to organization among millers,—wherever such organization is not subject to his dictation or valuable as a means of personal profit. The trite expressions used in denouncing the National Association and its friends are too tiresome to dwell upon, and we will

merely answer a few of the claims set forth.

The acknowledgment is made, to commence with, that if the list of State Associations reported as allied to the National Association, and the Directors representing the same, is bona fide, "the National Association might well claim to have some real right to be regarded as a National Association of Millers," but the assertion is ventured that "many of the state associations are moribund (a very good word, though becoming somewhat thread-bare and meaningless), others are not allied at all, and many of the 'directors' are not even members."

The facts are that every association named is in existence, though some of them have not held frequent or regular meetings of late. These organizations have been formed and were never formally closed or abandoned. If there should arise any emergency requiring united action upon the part of the millers who formed them, it would quickly be demonstrated that they consider their associations "alive," and claim all benefits to be derived from membership therein. In our list of these allied associations there cannot be found one which has not, by a formal resolution, regularly and legally adopted, allied itself to the Millers' National Association. Such action having been once taken, and not repealed up to the present time, no man of ordinary sense would question the right to the claim we make that it now stands allied to the national organization. As to the names of the directors appearing as representatives of the several state associations, every one of them has been elected and reported to the Secretary of the National Association as a representative. They each hold the office, under the constitution, until successors are chosen.

The Secretary of the Indiana State Association, who is an employe of *The Northwestern Miller*, is quoted as disclaiming the alliance of his organization with the National, the records, nevertheless. In this connection we will merely point to what our contemporary, *Milling*, published at Indianapolis, has to say; we reprint its remarks in another column.

The Secretary of the Missouri Association is quoted as saying that he "does not know" whether his organization is allied or not—in fact, he is not sure there is a Missouri Association. Its officers know so little about it that no meeting has been held for a long time.

The Secretary of the Ohio As-

sociation, another employe of *The Northwestern Miller*, does not know whether it is allied or not, though he has "looked over the minutes"—all excepting those of the meeting held at Columbus, on June 23d, 1891, probably, where he might have found something very pertinent to the subject.

The Secretary of the Maryland Association is reported as saying that his organization went out of existence several years ago. Possibly other members of that association would not agree with him. We hardly believe that Mr. P. H. Macgill, of Baltimore, would state that he is president of the association, and continue to attend the meetings of the national body as its representative, unless he had a perfect right to do so.

Minnesota, whose erstwhile secretary is the editor of *The Northwestern Miller*, is alleged to be "deader than a smelt," but we see no reason to question the word of such men as Messrs. Greenleaf, Loring and Martin, when they attend meetings of the National Association as representatives of Minnesota.

New York is said to be dead, but the millers of Buffalo, Rochester and other points throughout the state, to the number of fifty or more, who give loyal support to the National Association at all times, do not think so.

Of other State Associations whose alliance is questioned we will merely say that the minutes of the conventions of the following organizations, if correctly kept, will show a record, within the past two years, of the unanimous adoption of resolutions formally allying them to the National body:

North Dakota, August 24, 1890, at Fargo.

Pennsylvania, Nov. 15, 1890, at Harrisburg, and again Oct. 6, 1891, at Reading.

Northern Indiana, Dec. 3, 1890, at Ft. Wayne.

Nebraska, Jan. 16, 1891, at Lincoln.

Kansas, July 10, 1891, at Newton.

South Dakota, August, 1891.

As to Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin, their record of alliance is equally clear, though they have taken action upon the matter upon less recent dates.

The supposition is ventured that Mr. Coombs, representative for Michigan, has never attended a meeting of the directors, whereas that gentleman has never missed a session since he was elected by his association. Mr. Small, of Pennsylvania, who has been equally faithful and has missed but one session (when he was in Europe), is cited as an example of a director who cares nothing for the trust imposed in him by his association, the executive committee of which, at its last session, instructed the secretary

to communicate to the Millers' National Association an expression of its confidence in the ability of the National organization to guard the interests of the millers of this country.

As to the alleged quotation from Mr. C. C. White, of Nebraska, we cannot believe that a man who has always been a strong friend of organization, both state and national, has experienced the change of heart claimed. In the face of such a mass of misrepresentation, it is fair to presume that he has been misquoted.

Mr. Stokes, of South Dakota, may not be aware of his election as representative of his State association, but if he will read over the records of that organization he will observe that there exists a misunderstanding on the part of the other members of his State association, and that there was reasonable authority for the use of his name in the directory.

Mr. Blish, of Indiana, is evidently not "in touch" with his colleagues, and has deceived his State organization in like manner.

The Millers' National Association certainly cannot be held accountable if the interests of State organizations are neglected or betrayed by those in whose hands they have been confided. If a State association allies itself to the National and notifies the secretary that so and so has been chosen its representative, proper record is made, and the roster as printed by us is correct upon this basis.

We are not fighting any battles for the Millers' National Association; we believe it is fully able to stand for itself, and its present prosperous condition, in the face of continued and bitter warfare waged upon it by many members of the press, is evidence sufficient to substantiate this belief. We have replied to the charges made by *The Northwestern Miller* against the correctness of our report. We have obtained the facts through application to the secretary of the National Association, as anyone else may do, who cares to take the trouble to make inquiry.

The editor of *The Northwestern Miller* would do well to pay some little heed to facts in his blind rushes against the National Association and its friends. A display of his weakness and silly methods, such as that referred to above, awakens only contempt, and will wear from him the few followers he has succeeded in using thus far. When he has in his employ, as correspondents, the secretaries of so many State organizations, he should be able to gain a reasonably accurate knowledge as to the true state of affairs with these associations.

"MILLING," published at Indianapolis, takes objections to that part of the Minneapolis *Miller's* screed against the Millers' National Association, which refers to the Indiana State Millers' Association and its alliance with the National. *Milling* admonishes its north-western contemporary to "not eschew veracity," and says:

"If it will direct itself to proper inquiry concerning the relationship between the present Indiana association and the National, it will find that the former did vote itself into the National and has never voted itself out; that it did elect one of its members as successor to Nicholas Elles, deceased, as its representative on the executive committee of the National, and that member accepted, did act as such, has not resigned and still holds over, so far as official action is concerned, to the contrary. The Indiana association, it is true, is practically defunct. Our contemporary and the agencies, through which it works in this state, are largely responsible for its present condition. And more's the pity of it. The state has many earnest, active millers, favorable to organization and, up to the time of the Fort Wayne tri-state convention, was in excellent condition for well-directed effort to have made it what the Michigan association is to-day—an agency of great benefit to the millers of the state. Our contemporary indites confession of its malpractice when it writes of state associations having gone into "the sere and yellow leaf," for verily was it not the "official organ" of many and of the parent body as well? Whence came the poison that has eaten into their blood—and what of the skill of the physician who was in charge of the afflicted ones?"

THE ILLINOIS MILLERS.

At their late meeting a committee was appointed "to draft resolutions covering the sentiment of the Association in regard to the Millers' National Insurance Co." President Kreider appointed Messrs. J. F. Imbs, W. D. Sparks and A. J. Meek as such committee. Good men all; but badly handicapped by the scope of the resolution. Yet we can but express our surprise that they did not report on some of the questions that have caused the agitation regarding this Company. They report: "The prosperous condition of the Millers' National Insurance Company of Chicago as exhibited in its official reports and fully confirmed by a close and impartial examination on behalf of the Millers' State Association of Illinois, assures us that said Millers' National Insurance Co. has been and is now being managed with great care and good judgment for the benefit and protection of the policy holders; and we are further assured that said company is owned and controlled by its policy holders for the sole in-

terest of its policy holders." The gentlemen of the committee evidently did not have the charter and by-laws of the company before them when making this report, or if they did, failed to examine them, for had they done so they would have discovered the snags that can prevent the policy holders from owning or controlling the company, and they never can "own and control" it with any degree of certainty until there are radical changes made in the charter and by-laws. By what evidence they were so easily "assured" we know not. "The ability of the management"—which has never been denied—will be found equal to any emergency when necessary—to elect its own directors, and officers, and dictate its policy. The committee did well to recommend an increase of the maximum to \$15,000. We attended a meeting of the company several years ago, when an urgent recommendation for this same increase was made by the policy holders, but the "power that is," respectfully declined. We trust, however, that this recommendation will be heeded and acted upon. Gentlemen of the committee, while you have acted in good faith and tried to do your duty, you failed to get at the "meat in the cocoanut." We shall see how many millers are elected directors at the next annual meeting. This part of the programme (election of millers for directors) is already forestalled, by the statement of the secretary, who says, in an interview, that "this company is not, nor has it ever been exclusively a millers' company." When we see seven directors that are mill owners; when we see the charter and by-laws amended, so that no one man or set of men can carry off the company in their breeches pocket, whenever they shall so elect, then shall we conclude the millers have a company "owned and controlled by its policy holders for the sole interest of its policy holders" and not before.

BARNUM VS. BARNUM.

It may interest many of our readers interested in the controversy now going on regarding the Millers' National Insurance Co. to learn something of its early history and compare the original plans with the present management, as outlined by its able secretary.

At the great meeting of the Millers' National Association, held in Buffalo, June 13 to 17, 1877, a committee on insurance, which had been appointed at Milwaukee the previous year, made a very full report recommending "that requisite steps

be taken to make the Fidelity Insurance Co. of Chicago the 'Millers' National Mutual Insurance Co. of America,' but in such a way that the millers of the United States shall have the nominal and the practical control of its management. The board of directors should consist of mill owners only." * * *

At the conclusion of the report of the Committee on Insurance, this resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, empowered to take all necessary steps to convert the Fidelity Fire Insurance Co. of Chicago into the Millers' National Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of America.

Col. Barnum, of Chicago, secretary of the Fidelity Insurance Co., being present, was invited to explain the methods and working of a mutual insurance company. He said among other things: "The Fidelity Fire Insurance Co. of Chicago is in fact what you have just resolved it shall be in name—THE MILLERS' NATIONAL INSURANCE Co. Its risks are confined ENTIRELY to the better class of flouring mills, and to warehouses and their contents, under the exclusive control of the mill owner." * * *

July 9, 1878, at a meeting of the Pennsylvania Millers' Association held at Reading, Pa., Mr. W. L. Barnum, secretary of the Millers' National Insurance Co. (changed from Fidelity), being present, and being called upon, stated among other things: "The operations of the company are directed to the insurance of mill property EXCLUSIVELY. It is owned entirely by millers and controlled by them. Nearly 700 of the best mills in the United States are on their books insured for over two million dollars." * * *

We might furnish plenty more evidence of this nature, but think this sufficient to answer the statement made by Col. Barnum in the published interview, to-wit: "The Millers' National is not by any means EXCLUSIVELY a millers' company and NEVER HAS BEEN." (italics are ours.) Yet for eight years or more every policy holder in the company was a mill owner.

October 31, 1877, the name of the Fidelity Insurance Co. was changed to the Millers' National Insurance Co. This changing of name did not carry with it any right to the charter ownership, which was personal property, the inference must be that the owners of the charter are absolutely the owners of the company. While Mr. Barnum is prolific in his interview, he fails to give any information upon this very important topic.

THE PERMANENT FUND.—Mr. Barnum, at a meeting of the Michigan Millers' Association in Grand Rapids, February, 1878, made this statement: "In answer to inquiries I would say that the permanent fund belongs to the company, and if ever it becomes more than is deemed necessary for the perfect working of our plan it may be WHOLLY OR IN PART DIVIDED AMONG THE MEMBERS. Of course, a person withdrawing forfeits his right to all he has paid in."

But in 1886 a new scheme was hatched and Article XII was adopted, which put the permanent fund beyond the reach of the members.

In 1879, Col. Barnum submits his report for that year, in which he says: The following losses have been sustained by this company (amounting to \$21,871.64) and have been promptly paid from the permanent fund thereof during the year 1878. We venture the prediction that no loss sustained by this company within the past five years has been paid out of the "permanent fund," but are paid from the cash receipts of the company. This being the case, why continue to roll up a stupendous cash surplus over which you have not the slightest control? and which can easily be converted, should any party in control of the company desire it.

MURRAY'S PATENT LEVELING DISC.

ONE of the handiest tools we have seen for many a day is the little disc above mentioned, used for leveling rolls while running, with feed on—showing at a glance whether the rolls are level while at work. A leveling plate will do the work all right while the rolls are at rest, but this is no guarantee that the rolls will continue level when the power is applied and the feed turned on, as every miller has learned from experience. With this device, it takes but a moment to get the actual level of a pair of rolls, while in full operation. With this little device there need be no guess work about it. Every proprietor of a flouring mill should see the test made and we believe there will be a surprise not only for the proprietor, but also for the miller, when this simple contrivance will demonstrate to them that but a small proportion of their rolls are level when at work.

THE AMERICAN ROLLER LEVELING Co., of Milwaukee, have bought the patent and propose putting agents in the field to introduce the device to millers. A splendid chance for live, energetic agents out of a job. See Advertisement.

Correspondence.

[The following letters are all from our own special correspondents, and reflect their views and the views of the trade in the location from which they write.]

NEW YORK.

Stagnation without change.—Causes of depression in grain trade.—Effect of the decline in flour.

STAGNATION, without feature or change of importance, has characterized the whole breadstuffs list the past month; but it has settled over the flour market like a cloud without silver lining. Indeed, in that trade, it has been about the worst month of the worst year New York receivers have experienced in a long time, with no prospect of any general improvement this side of another year. The prospective passage of the Anti-option bill has been accused of the responsibility for this state of affairs in the speculative grain trade; but it is not the chief cause for this utter prostration of business, for provisions and cotton, which would be equally affected by such a law, have been booming the past month. It is a deeper seated cause, that is found in the lack of sufficient spot demand, enormous receipts at primary Spring Wheat points unprecedented stocks at lake and seaports and large supplies at European points of importation, with the importers too impoverished from last year's losses to anticipate future wants, hence, current low prices offer no temptation to buy for investment or forward delivery.

The continent of Europe which was the chief factor in our market last year is not doing anything here now, except to take a few samples, semi-occasionally, of choice wheat, which is not plenty as it has been and is being used to mix here with inferior wheat to make the contract grade to go in store, against which to sell future contracts for the carrying charges, which yield the "pawnbroskers" or carriers 8% on their money thus employed. This is the condition of the wheat trade; and, the same is true of flour, as a general rule, with fewer exceptions than usual. But this is not all; the silver question is having an almost equal, though less direct influence on values of wheat, with the prospect of its exercising a still more depressing effect, when the mark shall be removed from the International Bi-Metallic Conference farce. This is not far away and a drop of 2d in London, in one day, in the price of silver, indicates that the Monometallists of England, sent to the Conference to capture it and bring it to naught, have been successful. Hence no help to American farmers can be looked for from that source, unless some mir-

acle shall transform a majority of that conference into Bi-Metallists. Nothing will then remain for their brethren in this country to do but to stop the present coinage of silver by our government; and, with it the overproduction in silver, which has been going on at the expense of every other productive industry until values have reached a level, lower than in the history of many commodities, and so low that they will bring bankruptcy to their producers unless the decline in silver is stopped.

Of all commodities, none is more sensitive to the fluctuations in silver than wheat; as, with it, the entire surplus of India and other silver standard countries is bought in preference to, and before our surplus crop is taken, while the farmers of those countries are getting the same prices for their wheat as before the decline in silver; and the European importers are making the decline in the latter, or dividing it with the Indian, South American or Russian shipper. Hence this country is furnishing the silver required by gold standard buying Europe, to build up silver standard selling countries in all parts of the world, at the expense of American producers.

The outlook, therefore, for the American farmer, is not a hopeful one until our currency legislation is reformed and our tariff so revised as not to protect foreign farmers, with whom Europe can exchange her cheaper and better manufactured goods for their farm products, instead of paying the American farmer gold for his, which he, in turn is compelled to pay to American manufacturers for inferior goods at higher prices than his competitor in India and South America, and hence render him unable to produce his wheat as cheaply as they.

This is what ails the wheat and flour trade; and not the Anti-option bill, which would have no ill effect on the export trade of this country, but rather help it, by eliminating the gambling risks exporters are now obliged to incur. The condition of our grain markets last year was abnormal, owing to the abnormal deficit in Europe's crops; and, we are now getting back to our natural position among the grain markets of the world. Hence these lowest prices on record for wheat and flour are not exceptional, but the rule, and will continue so, so long as the conditions above described exist, except in short crop years. The outlook for this trade is therefore not bright after the New year, though it ought to improve, as Indian shipments on this crop are over 17,000,000 bushels behind same time last crop, and stocks in Europe should begin to decrease soon, if the unknown

quantity (Russian supplies) ever lets up.

Exporters have been doing almost nothing in wheat of late though the U. K. bought fairly, early in the month under review. There is, however, a feeling that wheat will do better as soon as there is anything to bull it on, because present prices are so low. Yet this stops short sellings, in spite of the unprecedented spring receipts.

Trade brands of flour are only moving in job lots, at about 10c over late bottom prices, notwithstanding inland freights have advanced 25c per barrel over the lowest prices of the autumn. Western Mills, however, are receiving a little better inquiry for January and February shipments at present prices, as 10c more freight goes on after December 15th. This has tended to steady up the market if not strengthen it or make it more active. But there has been a little better inquiry for export this week for feeding at \$1.75 @ 1.85, unsound Baker's Extras at \$2.50 @ 2.65. Sound Milwaukee do. at 16s 3d, bid, and 17s 3d, asked, c. i. f. to U. K., within which range Daniels has worked off a few thousand bags of the latter and Grinnel Minton & Co. a few more of the former, including spring superfine. The English Wholesale Co-operative Association has also taken some 10,000 sacks of high grade Western Winters and Springs, the past week, for English markets on terms not known. No. 2 Superfine and Fine Winters are wanted also for export and are very scarce and would bring an advance if here, while No. 1 Winters are selling fairly at \$2.35 @ 2.45 in sacks. The City Mills are running on old contracts for West India brands at \$4.15 and are selling their Patents at \$4.50 @ 4.65 for home and export trade quite freely, while getting 70c. for their 40, 60 and 80 lb. feed and 75c. for 100 lb., though 5c. concessions were made to clear up accumulations early in the week. Rye flour is doing better—in demand at \$3.25 @ 3.40, and buckwheat flour has been more active with cooler weather at \$1.85 @ 1.95. Corn meal has fallen off with corn to \$2.65 in bbls. for good kiln-dried, and 95c. @ 96c. in sacks for coarse feed.

The city mills are all running full time, and will be till January 1st, on old sales.

The New York house of S. A. Budgett & Co., has retired from the export trade and Mr. Nightengale, its active member, has connected himself with the great English house of Fowler and continues the grain and flour export trade. Mr. Pillsbury, who is here, tells me he is selling as much flour as a year ago to Europe direct, but not so much of Baker's Extras

and more of Patents. High grade Patent Springs were shaded here 5c. to-day, to \$4.35 @ 4.45 for standard to choice brands and more done, while 20,000 sacks of freight room was taken for London at 9 shillings and 5000 to Liverpool at 7s 6d or a break of 3 shillings.

N. Y.

New York, Dec. 7th, 1892.

BUFFALO.

THE political battle is over and so are the troubles of the "Grand Old Party," Mr. George Urban, Jr., chairman of the Republican county committee and Mr. John Scatcherd, state committee man and president of the Merchants' Exchange. The former gentleman knows more about the inwards of a presidential campaign than he ever dreamed could be true and the latter has probably enough of wallowing in the sloughy depths of a contest for which he never was reared and never can be fitted. The victory as far as this county is concerned is in favor of Mr. Urban and his co-workers. Democratic leaders admit that without the hard brainy work of these gentlemen the republican party would have suffered an ignominious defeat from which it would not have recovered in years. Mr. Urban's movements were watched and so well did he "enthuse" the boys that it was impossible to make a wager against Harrison except at big odds. Buffalo republicans are proud of Mr. Urban and his fighting qualities.

In deference to the flour trade here and at the request of our millers a correction of the Buffalo correspondent's letter to the *Northwestern Miller* is requested. The prices given by him are those of one firm having a special trade in a certain grade of flour which would not sell in any other market at more, or perhaps as much, as other brands manufactured here. Mr. Harvey, of the firm of Harvey & Henry, recently sold in New York, 2,500 barrels of their best flour at 20c above the figures for the highest priced and most favored brands of Pillsbury and Washburn. Still this cannot be considered the market. It is also claimed in one of his letters that there is no jobbing price here. This is entirely wrong and shows either ignorance or an attempt to mislead. A jobbing price does exist and furthermore it is the principal regulator of the city flour market at Buffalo.

The Noye Manufacturing Company is working night and day to complete contracts for milling machinery and with the increased force added last month is keeping up fairly well. Among the many im-

portant contracts taken lately are those for the new 300 barrel mill of Crouch Bros., at Erie, Pa., and the 400-barrel outfit for the James Frazee Milling Co., at Baldwinsville, N. Y. Stevens rollers for Millbourne & Co., at Philadelphia have been shipped, machinery for new mills at Depere, Wisconsin, Bellefonte, Pa., Appleton, Wis., and a number of smaller orders have been filled lately.

Membership certificates to the number of 22 were auctioned off on 'Change last month. There is evidently something wrong about the management of the Merchants' Exchange when only two certificates were sold to outside parties and the rest taken by the Exchange for want of purchasers at \$28.00! The Gratuity Fund is one great drawback to the institution, but there are several other reason of nearly equal importance for the steady decline in membership which will receive considerable attention at the next election.

Flour has been floating at this end of Erie and the shore at Long Point is strewn with it since the two steamers went ashore there. Five hundred barrels were also picked up at Erie, Pa., across the lake from that spot. It has been a god-send to the poor Canadian farmer, who, since the McKinley bill went into operation, has been literally starved to death. Insurance agents estimate that 20,000 barrels of flour have been scattered along Canadian shores this fall together with 2,000,000 feet of lumber. The amount of wet flour brought to this port during the past 2 months have never been exceeded in any one year.

The Lake Erie Line (the old Wabash), is "picking up" and bids fair to become as popular and great as was that name in the halcyon days, 20 years ago. A new steamer is on the stocks to ply between this port and Toledo next year. The receipts of flour from Toledo have been much larger this year than ever before in the history of this port.

The Lehigh Valley warehouse has added a thirty horsepower engine, two packers, a bolt and other machinery necessary to handle the immense business of that line.

Buffalo bidders for damaged flour and grain have not been successful this season. The "big four" which for years had a monopoly of this trade, has disbanded and the few who had from time to time made ventures in that class of speculation found themselves poorer and much wiser after the first attempt. There is no money in wet goods, except for the insurance agents.

The recent meeting of the National Transportation Asso-

ciation in this city was a little flat owing to a slight misunderstanding as to the time and place of the first session and again to little interest manifested in the gathering by the business men of Buffalo. Mr. Blanchard, chairman of the Central Traffic Association, was on the program for a speech, in the interest of his roads of course, but was called to New York. Car service charges as practiced here were considered, and it was intimated that an attempt would be made to force railroads to pay for delays of goods in transit. This would be a good plan but can never be made to work for good reasons well known to shippers and railroad men.

Mr. P. O'Day, better known as "Paddy" O'Day, (and he is not ashamed of being called Paddy either) has purchased the mill known as the Willink steam mill, near East Aurora, 17 miles from Buffalo. Mr. O'Day is the most versatile Irishman in Buffalo and probably in New York state. In 1866 he was known as the Fenian Head-centre and it was at his headquarters, on Water Street, in this city, that the patriotic fenians gathered and started to invade Canada. I say patriotic because, if the movement had been successful history would so have recorded it. Well do I remember when he started the paper which he called the *Fenian Volunteer*. The staff consisted of a German, an Englishman and an Irish devil. It flourished until the "boys" were driven from Canada. O'Day sunk a fortune in these two ventures. Later he secured a fresh start and bought two old floating coffins, which carried lumber and made him quite a snug sum before they went ashore. His saloon, or Irish-American boarding house, is still kept up, furnishing him with spending money and many a poor countryman of his with a meal and a nights lodging for which money is never taken. First and foremost, O'Day is an Irishman, then a Fenian, vessel owner, diamond broker and now he has fallen to a miller. As a miller I predict his success, so here are wishes of luck and long life, together with more power to your head and the rafters of your noble old Irish structure, from one who has been with you through it all. You are welcome to the ranks of the milling fraternity of which you know so little but can learn so much.

Mr. A. J. Seymour will be the next flour inspector of the Merchants' Exchange. His critical inspection under the unsolicited tuition of Major Heinold has made him a competent judge. The only objection he has to the business is that he is forced to hold his

face in the sample for an unnecessary length of time. The flour gets into his eyes and down his wind pipe.

Wheat looks cheap at 78½¢ for May, and our sharpest millers and speculators took on as big amounts as they could conveniently carry. Many things can happen to that over-sensitive wheat plant; Chicago is filled with grain; someone has bought the wheat now in elevators and the shorts have sold much more than the million of contract wheat there; speculators do not care whether Europe takes our grain or not in a crises sure to follow an oversold market; such are a few of the bull arguments why wheat is cheap. What Chicago does, goes and a few of our millers are standing "pat" on their purchases, as Duluth must advance with Chicago as she is short in Chicago. This is an interesting year to the man not compelled to speculate.

Just as soon as the last load of Duluth wheat was in this port, limits began to advance at the rate of ½ cent per day, for the first 4 days. The amount of Duluth wheat in store here is 3,100,000 against 2,800,000 last year at the close of navigation. There was enough last year to go around, and as more wheat is expected from Minneapolis this winter by rail than ever before, we look for a lively trade and a sufficient supply to meet all demands.

Mr. Henry, of the Artificial Manures Co., is deep in the mysteries of his new love and is making a great success of it too. But he has the goods.

Mr. Alexander Mann has been making some mysterious visits to the East on confidential business, it is said, for one of the big millers of Buffalo. Just what it is, bothers his best friends, but a clam, or a last year's bird's nest, is much wiser than Alexander when he is on a still hunt.

H. H. Eldred, once in possession of the Attica mills, is still manager of the Lyceum theatre in this city and appears to be more successful in running a playhouse than he was in making money out of a country mill. He is just as bustling and chipper as ever.

This reminds me of the great number of small mills for sale in country towns throughout the state. It is almost impossible to get into a conversation with a village merchant who does not know of a mill for sale in his section, and usually he has the agency for its disposition; singularly too, it is always "a good mill; best in the country and making money." "Then why sell it?" you would ask. The agent has a dozen reasons, all good and sufficient but not satisfactory to the practical miller. A sucker, however,

will be caught some day, whose trouble in his attempt to become "a miller, rich and prosperous" will begin a few days after its purchase. The bubble, in which he sees himself a successful miller, where others have failed, bursts in a short time and he, in turn, becomes a sucker-hunter, with a mill on his hands which is "the best in the country and a money-maker."

The canal authorities refrained from drawing the water in the Rochester basin in order to permit the unloading of wheat boats at the elevators there. The Whitney elevators will have a full stock on hand when all is in; Rochester millers having supplied their wants freely while rates by canal were low.

Rochester millers object to the city's use of water from the river on the plea that it will diminish the power when the water is low. At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, resolutions were adopted protesting against further use of water by the city and advising the authorities to repair certain reservoirs.

Millfeed advanced \$1.25 during the past month and the trade was unusually active until a week ago when orders were fairly well filled. Bulk winter bran sold at \$15.25@15.50; spring do. \$14.00@14.25; choice white middlings \$16.25@16.50. The opinion is that prices will not go higher during the next month.

Agent Safford, representing Pillsbury, has been unusually active this fall in the interests of his firm. His visits on 'Change were limited to one a week and of short duration.

"Cornmeal" Murphy is reported to be doing wonders with that product in Germany, having succeeded in getting the government there interested to the extent of considering the adoption of it as a food for the German army. At least Col. Murphy has succeeded in making Frank G. Carpenter believe his glib tongue to that extent. He also claims that bakers are using cornmeal to mix with rye and the Germans are none the wiser. Oh, Cornmeal Murphy! What mush-heads and what a perverted taste you must think the Teuton is possessed of. But you know better, and are only earning your salary in the employ of Uncle Sam. It is necessary for you to show your hand once a year.

The canal is closed and its fight for existence against the railroads shows a tremendous weakening. The following table for the season will plainly show:

	1892.	1891.	1890.
Canal.....	31,869,816	34,59,523	38,477,340
Railroads..	81,783,080	71,500,000	37,429,500

Besides this the average rate

paid is the lowest on record although 6 cents was paid for a few weeks in October. The average rate for the season on wheat is 3.3 against 3.4 in 1888 and 3.5 last year. There is only one item placed to the credit of the canal and that is the shipment of 29,265 bbls. of flour, which is 20,000 greater than this route has ever carried before in one season, the next largest being 8,800 bbls. in 1891.

The receipts by lake will foot up as follows:

Flour, bbls.	Grain, bu.	Grain, inc. flour, bu.
1892..... 9,867,470	131,900,754	181,238,105
1891..... 6,665,800	124,500,387	157,979,387

This is an enormous increase in the receipts of flour and grain as compared with last year, which was by far the largest on record. What will be the showing next year? The average rate on wheat was 2.2 which is about the same as last year.

The question, and it is momentous, who is to be the next president of the Merchant's Exchange is beginning to be agitated on 'Change. There is talk of forcing Messrs. Urban or Matthews into the chair, and there are also whispers of Mr. E. W. Eams, but these gentlemen have positively refused the honor heretofore and there is little hope of them accepting. Either would wake up the Exchange and find a way out of its present dilemma. For the honor of the Exchange, and the good of Buffalo, it is thought one of these gentlemen should be willing to give the time necessary to lift the old institution out of a rut.

The Buffalo Republican League gave a reception at its club house last week, in honor of Mr. George Urban, Jr., as a mark of appreciation of his masterly management of the late political campaign. George (like the colored troops), fought nobly against great odds. Mr. Urban has been elected a director of the new Hydraulic Bank, just organized and of which Mr. William Wilson Sloan, the prominent capitalist malster and Merchants' Exchange chairman, is to be president. Mr. Urban's name in the directory is a tower of strength.

It is claimed that if the Oakfield brand of fertilizers would cause "hair to grow" on Chaplain Henry's pate a dozen of his friends would buy all the works could make in the next six months and present the whole lot to him.

Heinold & Rodebaugh are doing a rushing feed business. Major John Getthre Heinold says if trade continues as good to the end of the year, he intends laying in another barrel of cider at New Years.

BUFFALO.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 10. 1892.

DULUTH.

THIS month has been the cleaning-up season of the year preparatory to the close of navigation. All the flour warehouses are empty and the mills, owing to bursted flour prices, are running very light. The amount of flour handled here during the past shipping season has been very large, much surpassing that of any other year. This, however, is due mainly to the fact that foreign purchasers of breadstuffs have generally manifested the disposition to take flour in preference to wheat during the entire season. This is said to be due to the fact that American flour is cheaper than wheat. The total receipts and shipments of flour and grain from this port for the season of 1892 and 1891 are as follows:

SHIPMENTS.		
	1892.	1891.
Wheat, bus.....	28,810,870	32,708,836
Flax ".....	392,664	283,415
Rye ".....	62,100	20,372
Barley ".....	75,329	74,901
Corn ".....	106,714	302,483
Oats ".....	29,953	361,653
Flour, bbls.....	4,550,850	2,910,360
RECEIPTS.		
	1892.	1891.
Wheat, bus.....	28,217,499	32,617,719
Flax ".....	555,903	473,619
Rye ".....	63,513	15,187
Barley ".....	104,080	51,131
Corn ".....	106,679	299,221
Oats ".....	37,541	396,334
Flour, bbls.....	4,480,483	2,738,537

This includes only shipments and receipts during time of navigation, which began this year April 21, and closed December 7. It will be seen that the quantity of flour handled this season by lake was over twice as great as that of last year. During that period 3,938 ships arrived, against 2,895 the year before. This gives a tonnage for this port and Superior of nearly 8,000,000 during the season of 1892. Every barrel of flour has been cleaned out of the warehouses and shipped down the lakes. There was an immense amount of hustling during the first week of the present month among the vessel men to provide accommodation for the immense amounts of freight which it was necessary to get afloat. The amount of wheat now afloat aboard of vessels, which will winter in this port, amounts to 571,100 bushels. There is also 61,658 bus. of flax afloat in the harbor.

The excellent demand for vessel tonnage from this port and Superior for the past season is shown by the fact that vessel rates on wheat have been from 3 to 3½¢ to Buffalo, on the average, during the entire season. A good stiff transient shipping rate has been preserved on flour.

The production of flour here during the past month has not been so large as usual, on account of the "duller than damnation" condition of the foreign demand. At one time, during the latter week in November, word was received here from foreign importers of flour, quot-

ing a price on flour which was fifteen cents less than it could be manufactured for. During the past week the mills have been running on about half production, and the general disposition among the millers is not to look for anything better before January 1, 1893. The immense "visible," away-above the 100,000,000 bus. line, is a constant menace both to the price of wheat and flour and furnishes an excellent excuse for the foreign buyer to cut prices of flour down to the lowest notch. It has been a distinct feature this year, of the flour trade, that the foreign demand has been most active for the lower grades of flour and for the cheapest article to be secured, no matter what its quality might be. In Duluth, so dull has become the market during the past few days that low grades of flour have been selling as feed. The red dog brand is rapidly being disposed of here at a few dollars higher than bran per ton. Of course, all these things have a direct influence on the output of flour at this point. Following is a table giving output of mills, and receipts and shipments by railroads during the past five weeks:

RECEIPTS.			
	Duluth Mills.	Superior Mills.	Railroads.
Dec. 9.....	27,791	9,227	22,565
" 20.....	31,753	7,183	24,570
Nov. 25.....	37,420	4,500	70,811
" 19.....	38,826	6,857	106,889
" 12.....	26,314	6,857	101,080
SHIPMENTS.			
	Duluth Mills.	Superior Mills.	Railroads.
Dec. 9.....	22,857	9,227	6,075
" 20.....	46,091	7,183	204,817
Nov. 25.....	50,306	4,500	126,470
" 19.....	15,953	6,857	118,068
" 12.....	41,840	6,857	116,045

It will be noticed in looking over the table of the business of the port during the shipping season, that the movement of wheat has been very large, coming within about 4,000,000 bushels of the enormous amount handled in this port during the lake shipping season of 1891. During the last two weeks, wheat has been arriving here in much larger quantities than in 1891. It may be said to be arriving twice as fast as a year ago at this time. The elevators here now contain 10,537,483 bus. of wheat and vessel bottoms, which will winter in the harbor, are carrying 571,100 bus. more, making a total of 11,108,583 bushels. Last year, at this time, there were only 4,097,723 bus. in store and elevators had a goodly amount in store before spring. At present outlook it would appear that every elevator will be taxed to its utmost capacity before spring. It may be readily gathered from the smiling countenances of the stockholders of these elevators that they expect to reap big dividends this season. Elevators here are now half full and wheat keeps coming at the rate of from 300 to 400 cars per diem. One distinct feature

is noticeable here with regard to the quality of the wheat in store; at no time, in the history of Duluth, as a grain receiving point, has there been such a large proportion of the best qualities of milling wheat in store. Over 8,664,000 bus. is No. 1 Northern, 518,245 bus. No. 1 hard, 1,034,090 bus. is No. 2 Northern. There is only about 27,000 bus. of wheat in store of lower grade than No. 2. This proves, beyond a question, the excellence of the quality of Northwestern crop of 1892. Even No. 2 Northern wheat, this year, is in many points, nearly as good as No. 1 Northern, previous to this year, considered purely as a milling wheat. The local stocks of wheat for the past week here increased 1,956,949 bushels.

The amount of wheat and flour handled here during the month of November, as compared with last year, is shown by the following wind-up:

RECEIPTS.		
	1892.	1891.
Flour production.....	132,613	85,661
" received.....	411,691	271,546
Wheat, bus.....	7,232,005	10,873,025
Oats ".....	10,271	454
Barley ".....	23,184	36,501
Flaxseed ".....	411,601	274,034
SHIPMENTS.		
	1892.	1891.
Flour, bbls.....	699,863	51,587
Wheat, bus.....	3,339,659	10,898,213
Rye ".....	41,237	52,631
Flaxseed ".....	49,273	184,895

It is estimated that the amount of Canadian wheat handled in bond here during the lake shipping season of 1892, was from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 bushels. Most of it went to Kingston in Canadian bottoms.

The wheat market here has shown a steady drop in prices during the past month. Little else could be expected in the face of the big reserves piling up here and in Minneapolis and Chicago. The available wheat in the country has already far passed the 100,000,000 bus. mark—the largest amount known at this time of the year in the history of the country—and still "she climbs." Flour is a drug. Indian shipments are small. For the last five months the shipments of wheat and flour have only been 88,000,000 bushels. It is fast beginning to dawn upon the trade that the government report under-estimated the wheat crop of the country in 1892.

All these things lead to a steady decline. The bull element in Chicago is vainly endeavoring to bolster up prices on that market by decrying the Duluth grades of wheat, as established by state inspection. They have generally hinted it out, over the country, that there has been a lot of Duluth wheat sold for future delivery, which will not come up to grade, and in this way they are enabled to eliminate a great deal of wheat, in their minds' eye, from the calculations; but they greatly miss their cue, because they will find, Duluth never had be-

fore such a small proportion of poor wheat or of the lower grades. In consequence of Chicago's firm market giving a margin of five and a quarter cents between them and Duluth, New York has transferred her purchasing business largely to Duluth, and the market has lately been quite active at this point, especially on every markedly declining tendency. Boats wintering here, of which there are many get 5 to 5½¢ per bushel for storing wheat until spring and then taking it to Buffalo. This is of big advantage to them, as they would otherwise make nothing during the winter. It is also beneficial to the shipper, who would otherwise have to pay elevators 4¢ for storage and boats 2½ to 3¢, in the spring, to get the wheat to Buffalo.

DULUTH NEWS NOTES.

The Duluth Board of Trade and the Jobber's Association have been fighting, for some time, to secure better passenger and mail train service over the Northern Pacific to the West, than now exists. No satisfaction could be gotten from the railroad officials until recently, when Superintendent Mellin agreed to put on an extra train if the citizens of Duluth would make up any loss incurred by such extra train. This train service is of great moment to the Board of Trade, because all their market circulars and correspondence with wheat producers and sellers goes over this line, and the service is wretched. Nothing has been done yet toward acceptance of Mr. Mellin's proposition.

The Imperial mill shut down to-day but will probably resume operations next Monday in both departments of the mill.

Secretary Thompson of Duluth Chamber of Commerce has sent out an address calling attention to the need of a deep waterway to the sea and asking different commercial bodies along the lakes to send delegates to Washington to hold a convention after the holidays.

M. E. Milmoie has returned to Milwaukee from this city, where he acted as purchasing agent of the Daisy Mills at Milwaukee. Mr. Milmoie will do the buying for the Lake Superior Mills as soon as they begin operations here.

A. D. Thomson is in the East but will return in a few days.

The Imperial Mill Company has been dissatisfied with the amount of space allowed them at the World's Fair Exposition. The floor space is 16 by 28½ feet. The Imperial Mill Company offers a prize of \$100 for designs submitted to fill this space, which will be on the second floor of the Agricultural building. It is the purpose of the Imperial mill to secure the

most unique and artistic design possible. The company was in hopes of securing better space in the Manufacturers' building. They failed in this, but succeeded in getting their space enlarged.

T. A. Olmstead has been seriously ill during the past week but is slightly better now. Mr. Olmstead is vice-president of the Imperial Mill Company.

B. C. Church has just returned from a short trip to Chicago.

The general offices of the Minkota mill are located in the American Exchange Bank building.

August Bodin lost three fingers in the Imperial mill by getting his hand caught in a rope used to pull cars.

New sample tables now adorn the floor of the Duluth Board of Trade, but as yet have been but little used. Drawers of tables were auctioned off and brought in a sum to the treasury aggregating \$237.50.

Two price deals have been placed in the Exchange room on which prices of the local market are quoted.

T. S. Daggett, president of the Duluth Board of Trade, has gone to Southern California, where he will spend the winter with his family. Mr. Daggett has not been doing active business on the Board for over six months, and will probably take life easy for a year or two on account of health and recreation.

There has been considerable talk among certain stockholders of the Imperial mill of building another mill, on a site adjacent to the Imperial, of the same capacity, but no active steps have yet been taken. If such were done, the whole plant, Imperial as well as new mill, would be under the direct charge of the manager of the Imperial mill.

Dr. A. Rockwell and J. D. Ellis will erect a grain curing elevator in Duluth. It will treat all wet and damaged low grades of wheat.

The Duluth Board of Trade will vote soon to adopt a new set of rules regarding commissions for sales of grain and millstuffs. Wheat, corn, rye and barley will give a commission of 1 cent per bushel. The rules are similar to those of Minneapolis governing the commission business. All members of other similar commercial bodies will be able to do business with members here at one-half the regular commissions.

RALPH MCKENZIE.

Duluth, Dec. 12, 1892.

SUPERIOR.

IT is a cold day here when the daily press are unable to come out under a slug head with the

announcement that Superior has secured another flour mill.

The most tremendous sensation was caused here by the announcement that Pillsbury had decided to erect a 10,000 barrel mill at Superior. Later, the appearance of Pillsbury's chief engineer, up here to look over the new Daisy mill, occasioned another flutter of excitement. Since I last wrote you, however, W. H. Barclay, of Fergus Falls, closed a contract with the Land and River Improvement Co., for the erection of a mill, with 1,200 barrels daily capacity, on Hughitt slip, just south of the Minkota mill. It will be completed by September 1, 1893, in time to grind the new crop.

In this group of mills is located the Freeman, already running, the Minkota, the Grand Republic, the Barclay mill and the Schraudenbach mill, (if erected) all of them to be the most thoroughly equipped flouring mills in the world. All mills being erected here are being pushed along as fast as possible to completion. Building operations on milling plants, at both the old and new towns, show a great deal of energy, in spite of cold weather. The Dowd cooper shop, which was burned last month, giving the Freeman mill a close escape, is again being erected with great rapidity. There is no place at the head of Lake Superior which bears the marks of activity that appears in the vicinity of the Listman group of flouring mills at Superior, East end.

The Board of Trade is endeavoring to secure as many of the general offices of the flour mills as possible in their building, so that a general sample market will be built up as soon as all the mills are in operation, which will be before the crop of 1893 is received.

Superior railroads and warehouses have handled more flour this season than ever before in their history. The amount of flour handled aggregated 2,128,283 bbls. The amount of wheat shipped during continuance of lake navigation in 1892, foots up 10,757,153 bus.

The flour milling industry now absorbs the most of public attention of any industry or mercantile business, and, from present outlook, it is destined to make this essentially a flour milling town. The scene, however, in the vicinity of Hughitt slip gives one the idea that there will also be a very heavy mercantile and building supply business done in close proximity to the flour mills. Here are two large wholesale grocery houses being erected besides the mills and warehouses for every conceivable kind of builders' supplies are close at hand. The flour millers here are among the foremost in the country, and take a very active

interest in present conditions of the trade.

SUPERIOR SQUIBS.

There has been more or less of an industry among boys and others in gathering up waste wheat by sweeping cars and selling it for chicken feed and other purposes. These boys have been frequently charged with securing more wheat than was really waste, and N. H. York, a prominent grocer, was arrested a short time ago and tried for receiving stolen property. Nothing was shown at the trial, however, but that he had bought waste wheat and he was acquitted. Considerable wheat is lost from time to time from cars, and it is natural to attribute it to thieving, but cars often leak and doors are not closed as tight as they should be. Complaints of losses are not as general as they used to be.

The employes of the Great Northern elevator struck several days ago, because, on December 1, their wages were reduced from \$2 to \$1 per day. Twenty-five of the men refused to work, and it became necessary to pay 20 cents an hour before the men would return to work.

B. F. Shanley gave up his contract to erect the Minkota flouring mill on account of the proviso requiring the structure to be up by January 1, 1893, with a penalty of \$50 a day. Minneapolis parties accepted the contract and penalty.

R. D. Ransom, sealer of weights and measures at West Superior, has passed in his resignation to the Common Council because the fees are too small.

The millers of Superior gave a highly successful hop at the Hotel Arthur last week.

E. D. Neustadt, who has been interested with Mr. Listman in his flouring operations at La Crosse, and who, it was supposed, was also interested in Mr. Listman's new venture here, has been here and in Duluth looking the ground over and has intimated that he will also erect a flour mill if he sees his financial way clear. Mr. Neustadt has been selling agent in the East for the products of La Crosse mills for the past fifteen years.

Flour barge 127, which was built by the American Steel Barge Company exclusively for the lake-carrying trade, has proven herself to be a veritable gem. On November 5 her sister barge was launched. It is quite probable that the whole flour trade of Superior will be carried on in these barges.

The Freeman Milling Company has re-elected its old officials as follows: Peter Deyo, president; vice-president, Howard Thomas; treasurer, Homer

T. Fowler; secretary, Edgar A. LeClair; general manager, A. A. Freeman; directors, John L. Lewis and C. E. Billquist. No dividend was declared, as the mill has been running but a comparatively short time.

Major Clinton B. Sears, of the United States engineers, will carry out the improvements on Howard's Pocket. The dredging will require the removal of from 4,000 to 5,000 yards of earth. This means easy access for vessels to Tower Bay slip.

A jute and cotton bag factory, accessory to the milling business, is the latest acquisition at Superior. It will be capitalized at \$100,000, of which \$75,000 in stock has already been subscribed.

Machinery will soon be placed in the Lake Superior mill, which will be the next flour mill to begin operations here.

The Grand Republic, heretofore known as the Russell-Miller mill, will probably be completed as to outside structure by the latter part of this month.

Henry Mansfield, employed on the Great Northern flour sheds at Superior, fell from the dock upon the ice and received injuries from which he died. He leaves a wife and married daughter.

It is stated that the Schraudenbach mill will be located on Hughitt slip, and that the piling will be driven this winter.

Superior gave very successful entertainment to 300 visitors from Twin Cities, Milwaukee, Chicago, upper peninsula of Michigan and other points, on the occasion of the completion of the South Shore road into Superior and the launching of the first passenger ship, the "Christopher Columbus," from the yards of the American Steel Barge Company.

WHALEBACK.

Superior, Dec. 12, 1892.

MINNEAPOLIS.

SINCE my last letter we have had a dull and dragging wheat market with a continuance of the phenomenally heavy receipts. Cash wheat has declined to 1½c under December, and May wheat has widened out from Chicago, May price, from 4½c to 6¼c. The cause of the heaviness of this market on the May option as compared with Chicago, is the fear that a large proportion of our No. 1 Northern will not grade No. 2 regular in Chicago, even with thorough cleaning. The Northwest is supposed to be short 30 million or more of May wheat in the Chicago market, as a hedge against holdings of cash wheat, and plenty of bull talk has been wired and written here from the latter market to the effect that a strong bull

combination is under way wheat there, with the determination to run in the shorts. However, it seems a little premature to talk of a squeeze on May wheat in December, and with the enormous "visible" of 75½ millions, our elevator owners are not very much frightened at the situation, and continue to run their business on business principles, and keep out their hedges against cash wheat holdings, as usual. The receipts of wheat from August 1st to Dec. 10th have been as follows at spring wheat markets:

THIS CROP.	LAST CROP.
Minneapolis... 33,031,257 bus.	29,824,602 bus.
Duluth... 24,198,732 "	29,524,962 "
Milwaukee... 7,913,346 "	5,731,106 "
Chicago... 34,456,905 "	29,663,736 "
Total... 99,600,240 "	94,774,106 "

Receipts at winter wheat markets from July 1st to date are:

THIS CROP.	LAST CROP.
Toledo... 17,638,264 bus.	16,587,002 bus.
St. Louis... 19,802,135 "	15,959,000 "
Detroit... 5,661,322 "	5,044,291 "
Kansas City... 14,530,000 "	8,350,963 "
Total... 57,631,721 "	45,940,956 "

This movement shows a gain in Minneapolis of 3,206,955 bus. and a decrease in Duluth of 5,326,230 bus. and a total crop movement in spring and winter of 157,231,961 bus. as compared with 143,715,062 bus. last year. The grain men here have had some complaint against the Milwaukee road for not furnishing cars for this market when they could be had for Chicago and Milwaukee, but this complaint seems to have ceased and the problem soon will be how to take care of what receipts we are getting. Our regular warehouse capacity is 13,000,065 bus. with private houses equal to 4,300,000 bus.

Our stock in store to-day, in regular houses, is 10,721,091 bus. of which 6,731,520 bus. is No. 1 Northern. Total increase last week 1,249,219 bus. against 1,034,092 bus. the previous week. Stocks in private houses are probably about 3,000,000 bus. Showing that we have not much room left after leaving working capacity.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Railway companies have had in consideration the adoption of methods to stop wheat stealing from cars on track, which has grown to be a serious nuisance, and have adopted a rule for the sealing of cars under the supervision of the State inspection department. In connection with this a sampler's bureau is to be established by the Chamber, and all samples are to be taken only after the seals are broken by the inspection department and the seals then to be replaced by this department. The production of our mills has been decreased since my last letter, owing to the lower stage of water and some trouble with anchor ice.

The production now is at the rate of about 186,000. bbls per week.

The flour market has been slow, but with a good demand for patents, however, for export. Low grades have to be sold very low to dispose of them. Quotations are as follows: \$3.70@4.00 for first patents, \$3.50@3.75 for second patents, \$2.35@2.90 for fancy and export bakers, \$1.10@1.35 for low grades in bags, including red dog. Millstuffs are steady, and sales range from \$9.00, 9.50@10.00 for bran in bulk. Shorts \$9.50@11.00 in bulk. Demand good, and, with probably smaller output, prices likely to rule firmer.

The millers and coopers had a meeting last week to confer as to the feasibility of adopting coiled elm hoops for flour barrels, instead of the round hoops in present use. The coopers do not like the idea of this change, as the patent hoops will require about one-third less coopers than are now employed. An unusually large number of barrels were used last week, and would have been larger but that some of the shops were short of stock. G. W. S.

Minneapolis, Dec. 12, 1892.

LONDON.

DECEMBER has arrived, without having afforded the British farmer a chance for preparing properly for the winter, and there still remains all kinds of farm work—sowing, ploughing, etc.—to be cleared up. During this autumn the markets have been as dull as the weather, and the unfortunate farmer has been subjected to a combination of depressing influences to which even he has been unaccustomed. Wheat has never been so low and the price of barley has touched the lowest point for forty years, while cattle and sheep have been sold at a heavy loss. The interest shown in the agricultural depression is now extending to all classes, and has led to the question of how to remedy the evil for the poor farmers, being well discussed in the press throughout the country. Some idea of the present state of things in England is given in *The Pall Mall Gazette* of the 8th November, which publishes an interview one of its staff had with Mr. Robert W. Dunham and Mr. W. Neave Hill, milling and baking experts, on the question of "Cheap wheat and the four-pound loaf."

The following is the report of the interviews:

The price of wheat has fallen to an unusually low level, and our record of this fact has frequently led readers to inquire whether the price of the loaf has correspondingly fallen. Correspondents with Protectionist leanings have gone further, and made the assertion

that the rise or fall in Mark-lane affects in no appreciable degree the baker's charge, and that therefore a moderate duty on wheat would not raise the price of the loaf. To that conclusion we demur, but, without arguing the point, we put before our readers the expert information on the whole subject that a representative has been able to gather. In an interview with Mr. Robert W. Dunham, of *The Miller*, the following facts were obtained with respect to the position of the wheat and flour trades:

WHY WHEAT AND FLOUR HAVE FALLEN.

"The price of wheat is abnormally low," said Mr. Dunham. "I see by a New York telegram that 76 cents per bushel is quoted, which is the lowest price known there. This is due mainly to the enormous harvest of last year. We showed clearly in our last monthly number that, taking the whole world's wheat crops, we have an over-production of 14,000,000 quarters. The total requirements of the importing countries for the year 1892-3 are reckoned at just over 39,000,000 quarters; while the surplus yield of the exporting countries is put at 53,000,000. This country is the dumping ground for the excess of every other country, and hence we find wheat being sold at a lower price than it is grown at in many instances."

"Has flour fallen in proportion?" "In the milling trade we have an extraordinary state of things. Since 1878 the mills of this country have been gradually remodeled on the roller system. We had at that time over ten thousand small mills scattered up and down the country, but not more than eight thousand now remain. We have, however, 800 roller mills of large capacity, which can turn out something like 27,000,000 sacks of flour per annum without running to their full capacity. The foreigner has hitherto been sending us flour of three qualities—best, second and third—but we have improved our mills so much that he finds he can only sell his best, and has had to stock his other grades here for some months past. This large visible supply of flour stocked here has also helped to depress the price of wheat. The old mills which are still running, besides doing gristing work, also produce 2,000,000 sacks of flour, and these millers come upon the market and buy American flour to mix with the product of the English wheat, which has not been of good quality for a few years past. They in their turn beat down the price of wheat, for they declare they will buy more American flour if they cannot get the wheat at their own price."

"What is the amount of flour consumed in this country?" "We consume about 35,000,000 sacks, of which the foreigner sends about 6,000,000."

"What is the price of flour at present?" "Today the price of flour, both English and American, ranges from 21s. 6d. to 28s., whereas last year on the same date it was quoted at from 27s. to 35s., and at the same period in 1890 its range was from 24s. to 34s. per sack of 280 pounds."

THE PRICE OF THE LOAF.

"Why has the price of bread fallen so little in view of this fall in the price of flour?" "Well, a good deal of flour was bought forward at higher prices, and that would account to some extent for the slight fall. In some districts of London, however, you have the quarter loaf as low as 3½d., although in the West-end it will rise to 7d. or 8d."

"Is there any scale by which you could test the price of flour and the price of the loaf?" "The old custom was, when the top price of

flour dropped 4s. per sack a halfpenny was taken off the four-pound loaf; and when it went up 4s. a halfpenny was added. In some country districts that rule still holds good."

"Would you say that the present price of bread is too high, considering the position of flour?" "Well, I cannot say that the baking trade is in a flourishing condition, so that *prima facie* too high prices are not being charged; but there is a great want of technical and scientific education in the trade. They don't know how to make the most of their materials. One baker will produce more than one hundred loaves out of his sack of flour, while another will not exceed ninety. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the baking business should not always be remunerative."

THE WHEAT OF THE WORLD WANTED.

"It is, of course, absolutely necessary that the baker should have foreign wheats of certain kinds?" "Yes, in order to make the bread light and palatable. And it is to be regretted that the necessity of using foreign wheats is becoming greater every year, on account of the quality of the English wheat."

"Now, could we satisfy our needs both as to quantity and quality were we to confine ourselves to our own colonies and India?" "Certainly not at present, and possibly never. Russia supplies us now with 36 per cent of all our foreign wheat, the United States with 30 per cent, Australia with between 3 and 4 per cent, and Canada about the same percentage. Thus we receive only about a fifth part of our supplies from within the Empire. As to quality, we must have wheat either from Russia or America. Incidentally, I may say that English wheat has fallen below foreign wheat in price because the farmer does not sow the quality of seed which he did in old times."

"In your opinion, would a duty on foreign wheat increase the price of bread?" "Most decidedly."

"Why?" "Well, for one reason, the duty would have to be paid by the capitalist, and he would have to get a return on his money, and the more the capitalist receives the greater the cost of the article is bound to be. We import two-thirds of our food, and if a tax is put upon that obviously the people must pay it."

"Has an increase of duty on imported wheat increased the price of bread in Germany and France?"

"Yes, it has. Protection always increases prices. Look at America with its superabundance of wheat, and yet in Chicago they pay 1s. to 1s. 2d. for the 4-lb. loaf. The high price of bread in the United States is due to the high price of labor which is always paid in 'protected' countries. With regard to Germany it is the custom, I know, among Berlin bakers to sell bread at a fixed price, but, on the other hand, the loaf has no fixed weight, but rises and falls in the scale with the price of flour, and travelers will have noticed that the increased import duty diminishes the size of the loaf sold in Berlin. The rise since 1887 in the price of rye bread, the staple food of the poorer classes in Berlin, nearly amounts to 50 per cent, a fact of great significance when it is borne in mind that the last increase in the cereal duties dates from the end of that year. In France protection has raised the price of bread, and I remember reading a curious fact that during the first two months of the year 1889 France imported 3,789,726 kilos. (the kilo. is equal to 2.15 lb.) of bread, as compared with 597,576 kilos, and 140,900 kilos, brought over the frontiers during the same period of 1888 and 1887 respectively. This startling increase was due to

the law of March, 1887, which placed a duty of 5 francs on each imported 100 kilos. of wheat, and 8 francs on the same weight of flour; while bread was left under the old tariff of 1 franc 20 cents. per 100 kilos. These figures show that the price of bread was raised sufficiently high for the countries adjoining to send in bread every day at a profit."

FROM THE BAKER'S POINT OF VIEW.

Our representative afterwards called upon Mr. W. Neave Hill, of Bishopsgate street, and put a few questions to him as an expert in the baking business:

"I do not agree," was Mr. Hill's first comment, "that flour is so very cheap. Some kinds of flour are low, no doubt, but the best grades have not fallen much. A great deal of bad wheat has been harvested during the past few years; that is not destroyed; it is turned into flour and consumed. That kind of flour is cheap, if you like, but not the prime article."

"You will admit, however, that the quotations for wheat and flour are lower than they were this time last year? Has the price of bread fallen in proportion?" "The price was reduced 1/2d. in the spring, which brought it back to what it was before the rise in flour last year. We did not follow the sharp rise that took place then, a halfpenny being all that was put on, and that was taken off, as I have said, in the spring, when the reaction came."

HEAVY WORKING EXPENSES.

"What are the present prices?" "They range from 43d. to 7d. Neville's, which may be taken as a sort of medium standard, is 6d."

"The cost of flour is, of course, not the only item in fixing the price of the loaf? What would you say is the proportion of other charges?" "The expenses of working add nearly 50 per cent to the cost of the raw material. That is to say, for every 100s. worth of flour it takes 48s. to bake and deliver it to the customer."

"Have working expenses been increasing?" "Very much so. When I entered the trade, working expenses were about 33 per cent, whereas, as I have said, they are now nearly 50 per cent. The wages of bakers have been increased and their hours reduced—and a very good thing, too, as they were intolerably long before. Rents and taxes have always a tendency to rise, and other things are dearer. Whether it be railways or other business, the experience is the same that working expenses increase. Although I did a much larger trade in 1891 than in 1890 I just made half the profit."

"Is there any arrangement in the trade as to fixing the price of bread?" "With three to four thousand bakers in London, it is impossible to come to any arrangement. There is no possibility of a league to keep up the price of bread."

"I understand many of the bakers are in anything but a flourishing condition?" "I believe eighty out of a hundred could not pay their debts if they were called upon to do so."

"Do you think that a duty would add to the cost of the loaf?" "A small duty would not, I think. I would tax flour, as that is a manufactured article; but not wheat."

The agricultural interests of the country is being brought to the front by the interest that has been awakened in the National Agricultural Conference, which is to be held on the 7th of December, here in London, which is altogether beyond experience in connection with agricultural meetings held during the present generation. The

whole of the fifty-five Chambers and Clubs in connection with the Central Chamber of Agriculture are expected to send delegates, and, in addition, a large proportion of the rest of the three hundred bodies to which invitations have been sent. Applications for tickets from all classes of agriculturists, including a few laborers, have been sent to the secretary of the Central Chamber from all parts of the Kingdom, and with them a multitude of suggestions, some of which are curious, while others are valuable.

Conferences are the order of the day, so last month the National Association of British and Irish Millers paid a visit to Liverpool and held a meeting there to which all millers were invited, even if they did not take any interest in the association, in order that they might suggest what they thought there was lacking in the association, so that its "faults" might be rectified, if there were any, and their interest in the organization might be awakened and support secured. A paper was read entitled "Milling Items," and a lively discussion ensued on the "Contract Note" between miller and baker, and that ever-endless subject, "Insurance Against Fire, etc." The meeting was one of the best the association has had, excepting of course the annual conventions, and the members and friends dined together in the evening and discussed the hopefulness of greatly increasing their numbers in the north-west corner of England, as the usefulness of the association had clearly been shown that day.

A report from the Prussian Minister of Agriculture estimates the crops in Prussia in 1892, as compared with those of the two preceding years, as follows, in quintals of 220 1/2 lbs.:

	1892.	1891.	1890.
Wheat.....	17,972,000	14,748,000	16,378,000
Rye.....	62,782,000	43,163,000	49,640,000
Barley.....	13,394,000	13,696,000	13,296,000
Oats.....	32,731,000	37,273,000	38,522,000
Potatoes.....	240,933,000	160,385,000	171,165,000

It will be seen that the wheat, rye and potato crops have proved unusually prolific.

According to *Beerbohm*, the crops of Bulgaria have just been officially estimated, in quintals, as follows:

	1892.	1891.
Wheat.....	10,720,450	10,445,488
Rye.....	2,246,231	1,570,000
Barley.....	2,601,113	2,620,601

The results are below early expectations.

Two new milling machines are being placed on the market by Messrs. Thomas Robinson & Son, limited, of Rochdale. One is a new dust collector called the "Insurance" Dust Collector and the other is a new Inter-Elevator Reel, which I hear is an American invention. Yours truly,

X. Y. Z.

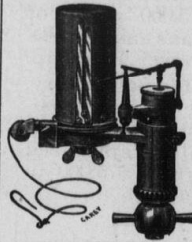
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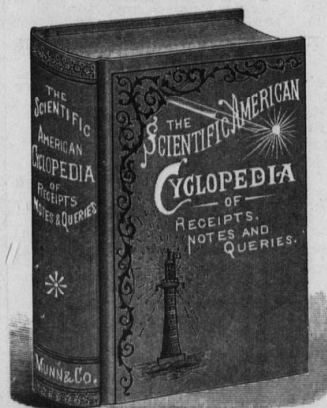
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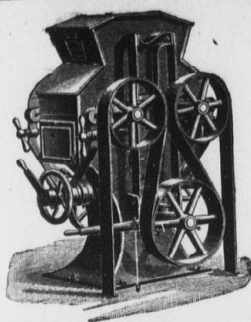
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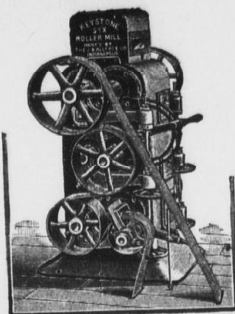
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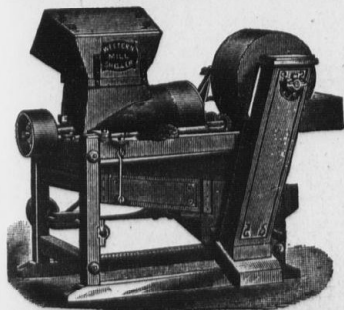
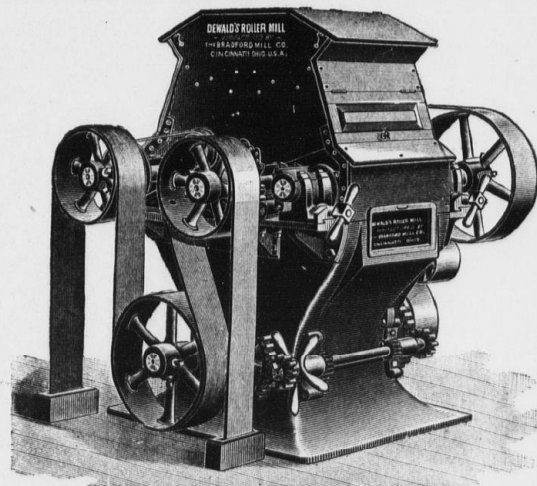
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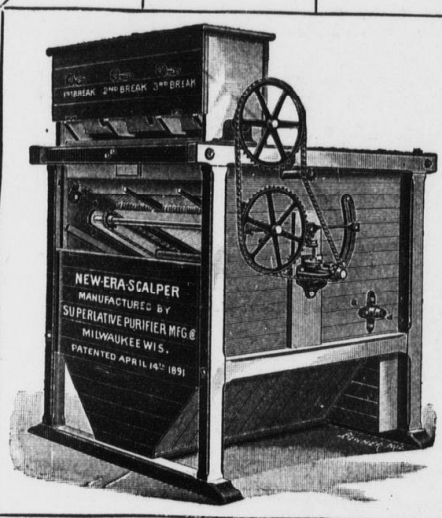
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